



INDIAN AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI.

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THE
Planters' Chronicle

VOL. XXVI.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1931

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 1]

January 3, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

WITH the advent of a New Year, the thoughts of every one instead of dwelling on disappointments which are past, become imbued with new hope and a fresh spirit of determination to succeed. *Future Prospects* overcomes that lethargy which so easily develops into apathy when times are bad.

Admittedly 1930 for many people has been a disastrous year but we have experienced equally bad times before in our history and better trade is already in sight.

There are at least signs that Britain is awakening to the importance of making a great drive to improve her world trade and the Prince of Wales referred to this in his address at the Guildhall Banquet, when the people most prominent in British industry and commerce were present. The Prince particularly appealed for greater efforts in the field of salesmanship where for several years Britain has been losing ground.

This particular point of course bears closely upon Planting Interests—we have many times in this journal given publicity to the efforts that have been made to popularize tea both in Great Britain and America and there is no doubt that the propaganda now taking place in India will have good results. Coffee Planters are now considering the Advertising Scheme put forward by the British Coffee Board and whilst at present an improvement in the price of coffee cannot be expected owing to the large supplies which have accumulated in Brazil, there can be no reasonable doubt of the ultimate recovery of the industry.

Rubber is now being sold at a firm price, the best recorded for three months since the low record of 3½d. per lb. was touched in September and October. Incidentally the best level in 1930 was 8½d. in February, while the average price has been 6½d. The chief cause of the present rise in price is the decrease in Malayan shipments in November to 41,281 tons. This is 6,000 tons below the October figures, and the Ceylon export also fell a couple of thousand tons in the same month.

There is evidence therefore that the intensive tapping which is known to have been in progress during the last two years among the native plantations in Malaya, is now having its inevitable effect on yields,

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

AMALGAMATION OF ENGLISH TEA COMPANIES

A hitch has occurred in the completion of the arrangements for the merging of different retail tea stores into one company with a capital of £13,000,000.

News of the formation of this new company was made in my notes recently, when it was mentioned that the Home and Colonial Stores, International Tea Stores, Liptons, and Maypole Dairy Co., were to be merged into one gigantic concern to be called Allied Stores, Limited.

A provisional agreement for the incorporation of this new company was signed on July 17 last, and the scheme was approved by shareholders at the end of that month. The hitch has, I believe, arisen following a proposal from International Tea Stores that the whole of its productive capacity should be absorbed by Allied Stores, who could obtain products from other sources of supply only if the demand exceeded that which could be supplied by the International Stores. This point naturally led to dissatisfaction on the part of the Home and Colonial Stores, who are associated with Unilever, Ltd., who are themselves big producers. Unilever, Ltd., are thought to have at least half the voting power of the Home and Colonial Co., and also considerable interests in Liptons and in the Maypole Dairy Co.

In many quarters it is expected that the shareholders of the International Tea Stores will vote against the merger, and as they are such a powerful organization, and are strong competitors of each of the other companies forming the new concern, Allied Stores, Ltd., it is likely that the whole project may be dropped.

The whole matter has caused much comment in Stock Exchange circles here.

AMERICAN RUBBER STATISTICS

After a steady decline shown of late months in the consumption of rubber in the United States, the October figures revealed a slight increase, the total being 27,271 tons, compared with 25,288 tons for September. Though this increase was more than offset by larger arrivals—43,729 tons, against 39,467 tons—the total of stocks afloat to the U.S.A. showed a reduction of nearly 10,000 tons. Thus, while the American stocks rose from 169,927 tons to 185,470 tons during October, the statistics do hold out some prospect of improvement in the future from the standpoint of sellers. But, as the *Times* points out, there can naturally be no expectation of rapid improvement until general trade in the United States revives, and of that there is but little sign at the moment. Hopes of a check to the accumulation of stocks both in America and in this country must perchance mainly repose for the time being on the measures which planting interests are taking to curtail production owing to inability to produce rubber at a profit at existing prices. Every week brings fresh evidence of prospective reduction of output either through restricted tapping or, as in the case of many of the smaller companies, a complete closing down of estates, and this should presently prove a cumulative factor which should exert a growing influence on shipments in the coming year. This influence would, however, be lessened if the price of rubber rose much above the current level.

GERMAN INDIA TEA PROPAGANDA

Propaganda, on behalf of India tea, writes a Hamburg correspondent, is now being carried on in Germany. Some exception, however, is taken to the methods employed—the complaint being directed towards the alleged prohibitory price at which the India tea is being offered to the public. The representative of one large Hamburg tea house stated to the writer that, in his opinion, it was a mistake to allow the tea ' packed by order of the Indian Tea Cess Committee ' to be sold at the ' amazing ' price of R.M. 8·50 to R.M. 9 per half kilo. Those prices, he claims, are contrary to the whole idea of propaganda—particularly when Germany, with its more than 60 million inhabitants, is fully prepared for a campaign to this end, it being possible, he believes, easily to double the consumption if real propaganda were put in force. As opposed to the prices mentioned, he cites other teas of equal quality that may be brought by the retailer around R.M. 3·50 per half kilo, duty (R.M. 1·75 per half kilo) paid—this being sold to the consumer all over the Realm at less than R.M. 9. As matters now stand, the retailer, he claims, now has to pay from R.M. 6 to R.M. 6·50 for the Tea Cess tea in question. This price, he believes, warrants a higher grade of what is actually placed on the market. Inquiry from the other sources, however, brings out the information that the propaganda has already brought out some successful results and that there are rumours that approval will soon be given the brands of good quality but of lower price.

RUBBER WALL PANELLING

There has been a good deal of correspondence in the Press relating to the advantages of rubber flooring in hotels and hospitals as an antidote to the peculiar talents of chambermaids for extracting the maximum of noise from their domestic duties. A commentator on this correspondence, however, is not satisfied that the provision of flooring alone would defeat the efforts of these disturbers of the peace. He points out that ' it is not from corridor floors only that dreamy chambermaids orchestrate their full early-morning din. The more resourceful of them take great delight in banging the wooden skirting between the floor and wall, so if these women are to be completely outwitted, the skirting must be of rubber, too.' The writer himself is probably unaware of the magnitude of the potential field for the consumption of rubber that is here suggested. The *Rubber Age* has, on several occasions, stressed the immense possibilities embraced in the employment of rubber panelling for interior decoration. As a substitute for plaster moulding, rubber has a marked superiority in practically every quality : it is infinitely more durable, can be washed down any number of times, is even more plastic for decorative design, and can be coloured throughout its depth instead of only on the surface. The same advantages apply to wood panelling and skirting. If a demand for rubber panelling could be created, the scope for rubber consumption might easily rival that contained in any of the schemes put forward through the medium of the Rubber Growers' Association, including the rubber-roadways project. The idea, of course, is not new. Some admirable specimens have been manufactured for some years past, but we are not aware of any attempt on an adequate scale having been made to popularize the innovation.

of prices at the tea auctions, but an equally important factor is the output position. Estimates from the chief producing centres show that the current crop is likely to be not less than 40,000,000 pounds smaller than a year ago. The reduction has been effected by a return to finer plucking, and in some instances by a shortening of the picking season. It is too early to calculate the effect of this reduction on stocks, the accumulation of which, as in many other directions, has been responsible for a sharp contraction in the profits of the growers. Much of the trouble of late years has been due to the marked increase in the output of common growths, the demand for which is much smaller now that the Russian market is practically closed, but if the lesson of the past few years has been properly learned, there is no reason why the fortunes of the growers should not be more consistent.'

Another London paper, the *Financial Times* comments as follows :

' Some fifty rises are marked against the prices of shares in the Tea market. There was a good deal of business doing here yesterday. The difficulty was, as ever, to find shares available to meet demand as soon as the latter arose. Some of the improvements are substantial caused, partly, by a marking-up rather than by actual transactions. Everyone is asking what shares are worth buying ; whether these should be picked up now, or whether reaction is likely to happen.

As to the latter, nobody can speak with assurance, but from the point of view of marketability there is a good deal to recommend James Finlay shares, which stand about 76s. 6d., and by the taking of an interest in which the purchaser becomes indirectly associated with the famous companies connected with the firm.'

Others might be given, but they are practically all of the same tenor—all being optimistic of the future.

E. L. H.

TRICENTENARY OF THE CAFE

The French tradesman or caterer has never been slow to take advantage of historical celebrations, souvenirs or centenaries or any material or sentimental methods of booming trade. American go-getters may discount this assertion, but Einstein will tell you that everything is relative.

COFFEE IMPORTS INCREASING

Import figures of coffee into France do not indicate that the general trade is undergoing any special boom but, again, a qualified estimate of the situation makes it apparent that the café, or coffee-shop, is doing business on a scale which it has never before known—whether it be one of those of the two or three stand-up chains with which Paris is dotted, the Brazilian or Venezuelan propaganda parlors, the Americanized 'Dome' or the Balkanized 'Rotonde' of Montparnasse or the conventional, classic type of the boulevard establishment, hardly modernized in a quarter of a century except for the installing of an American-made cash register to keep tabs on the waiters.

This being said, the boom, though it may previously have got started under its own power, was given a veritable open-throttle acceleration resulting from the publicity of the recent official recognition by the French government of the tricentenary of the founding of the first café, or coffee-shop, still something far more characteristic of its kind in France, in Paris in particular, than elsewhere.

THE FRENCH CAFÉ

The dictionary definition of the specious café is not wholly adequate. A café as the French understand it—and they brought it into being—at least firmly established it—in the manners and customs of the time, three hundred years ago. It was a place where one foregathered, drank his coffee (in a *demi-tasse* or in a tall glass—when it becomes a *mazagran*) smoked his tobacco, gossiped, read his newspaper or wrote a letter. All this one does today—in France.

In this hurried age, the French have held out for these customs more than those of any other land, and these customs have many advantages and attributes. It may come yet in countries where the hurry is of an even more rapid pace than in France.

OTHER COFFEE SHOPS

The tea-room caters more to the purely social aspects ; the drug-store and its jerky soda fountain dispenses indigestion—something to patronize perpendicularly and not the least at one's ease—while the café remains something which proclaims comfort and relaxation.

The infiltration of what is wrongly called the 'American Bar' in Paris has not in the least discounted the simon-pure café, either in comfort or commodity. And at that the café-chantant of a former generation really had it all over the present-day 'cabaret and dancing,' as the French have misapplied these words. Paris has a score of American bars of repute among expatriate Americans and the snob *jeunesse* of the French, but it has something like eight thousand cafés and the latter are daily increasing in number, fortunately far more rapidly than the former, if Paris is still to remain Paris and France to remain France. The saturation point for the café has not yet loomed on the Paris horizon. The café made its bid for public approval on its appearance three centuries ago and came to stay.

The café is not a cabaret nor wine shop *per se*. Coffee has routed what a French poet has called the 'juice of the bottle.' 'Café awakens wit and encourages reason.' 'A sober liqueur, a cerebral stimulant.' Good slogans, these !

The café has played a great part in French history. From the Café Foy Camille Desmoulin launched the first call of the French Revolution, thirteen years after the American colonies proclaimed their independence.

The Café Procope first heard the retentissant thunder of Leon Gambetta—literature and politics have ever been associated with the French café. The Café Regence, in the very heart of the Opera district, to-day remains a sign-post of Napoleon's regime, where they still play chess nightly as they did in the days of the Little Corporal, and you may see, if you will, the very table at which he sat.

The Ecu-d'Argent, Café Anglais, and Café de la Paix, down to the plebeian Café des Voyageurs or the Café du Commerce, all serve their purpose—virtually the same purpose as the hotel office or lounge in America, but with this difference—you are not looked askance by the house detective and you may rest as long as you like over your *café au lait* and *croissant* or over your *mazagran* or *demi-tasse*.

OPEN AIR CAFÉS

There is a business proposition in the idea only waiting to be exploited. If the café can have an open air annex attached to it, so much the better. The reputation of the café-terrace of Paris, Café de la Paix needs no publicity ; at least two Paris railway stations have their café tables set out in the

open at one end of the concourse—which the French appropriately call the ‘Hall of Lost Steps.’ Here and there a municipal park or tiny square has its café accessory as well. The proof of the desirability, if not the necessity, is that apparently they all make money—at least one seldom hears of them in the bankruptcy courts.

France is a café-land par excellence. There are a few in Switzerland, fewer in Spain, few enough in Italy though chiefly big-scale affairs in the famous glass-covered galleries of Naples or Milan or, as for instance, Florian’s on the Saint Mark’s Square at Venice—whose front door key, it is said, was thrown into the Grand Canal a hundred years ago and no one has thought it worth while to fish it out as the door has never been closed since.

Belgium comes next to France in the development of the café as a popular institution, particularly those of Brussels and Antwerp; they are not unknown in Holland.

And with all this in favour of the café, there is very little literature on the part it has played in the political and social life of a nation, as research in the Bibliotheque Nationale at Paris well shows.

The old Café Martin in New York is an example of transplantation, the former Café Boulevard on Second Avenue, with its scores of newspapers and periodicals from the *cinq parties du monde*, is another, but the idea is yet in embryo for America.

Incidentally there is probably money in it, though it is difficult to see where in New York’s ‘Roaring Forties’ place could be found for a sidewalk ‘terrace’ and its *petites tables*, or in Chicago’s loop district for that matter. A compromise solution might be found, as the tea room was a compromise between the wire chairs and marble counters of the drug store and the plushy hotel dining room. New sources of trade and traffic and their developments are what makes profits.—F. M.

The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.

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USES OF RUBBER

Rubber history is charged with paradox and contrariness. When the price of the raw material was high, we were told that price in itself was a bar to progress. It made experiments in new uses impossible. If and when rubber fell to 6d. or 8d. per lb., then, we were assured, the man of ideas would have his chance, and the world would see to what purposes rubber could be put, with benefit to the consumer and profit to the manufacturer. Well, rubber has been down to 3½d., is now 4½d., and has for months been well under 6d. With one exception, has opportunity been taken to further the new ideas which were to be born of cheapness? A ton of rubber that three or four years ago would have involved an outlay of £250 to £300 can be bought to-day for £40. Now we are told that times are bad, and there is no surplus for experiment and trial in new uses. Could anything be more ironical than the experience of the Leyland and Birmingham Company as outlined by its chairman, Mr. R. T. Byrne? The company’s output was larger than in the previous year, manufacturing expenses increased, and wholesale prices fell, so that the turnover in sterling was lower and profits suffered accordingly. But the price of rubber was also down heavily, and theoretically it might well be argued that the larger output had reduced costs on an essential material would go far to offset the fall in wholesale prices. That a company which combines enterprise with

conservative methods should find conditions thus difficult, if not embarrassing, may perhaps suggest reasons why there has been less response by the industry to the slump in raw rubber prices than might otherwise have been looked for.

The Chief Engineer of the Road Department of the Ministry of Transport is not alone in feeling that present rubber prices give rise to hopes that processes and methods may be developed for extending its uses. At the best, no doubt, experiments are bound to be costly, and one element contributory to that cost must be propaganda. It is useless to make discoveries and to put new manufactures on the market without broadcasting their claims. Our columns have repeatedly carried hints as to the ways in which new uses for rubber may be found, and as we know from the action taken by the Rubber Growers' Association in endeavouring to enlist the co-operation of the Dutch, there is no unwillingness on the part of the producers to provide raw material. Now, if ever, is the time for rubber to prove to the world what it can achieve. Take so exceptional a case as that mentioned by Mr. H. R. Johnstone in the letter from California published in the September *Rubber Age*. He was shown a rubber pump for projecting a combination of acid and water. The firm responsible for the manufacture said the pump had been in use for over three years, and it was still perfectly serviceable. If it had been made of metal, its life would probably not have exceeded two or three weeks. There might even be something in the suggestion made by a correspondent in this issue for a readily available, effective, but incommodious covering for golfers and others. Every Rubber Exhibition, every Building Exhibition, every Shoe and Leather Exhibition, practically every Exhibition, whether popular or technical, has afforded hints as to ways in which rubber could be utilized. But it is an uphill game to educate the public. How many people who are using rubber sponges ridiculed them when introduced? Take goloshes. During weeks of wet weather—the sort of weather that lives in memory from its sheer discomforts and ills—how many of the people one has met were wearing goloshes and ensuring dry feet and warm feet? Not one in a thousand. In this country goloshes seem to be reserved for snow and its slush after-effects. In early days, goloshes were clumsy and far from things of beauty. To-day they are neatness itself, hardly distinguishable from the boot, and at once economical and healthful. Here surely is an opportunity for judicious propaganda. Again, how often have we gone into what looked like a cosy room with its blazing fire, only to discover that its cosiness was sharply qualified by draughts from door and windows that none could wholly escape? All the discomfort might be avoided by the simplest, neatest and most inexpensive application of rubber strips. If these were available in local stores and people were reminded of their effectiveness, miles of rubber strips could be disposed of in a very short time. A small matter, but not insignificant. Experience has proved that propaganda and marketing should be twin operations.

The one outstanding instance of persistence and determination in seeking a use for rubber that might add enormously to the business of the manufacturer whilst it would bring relief to the producer is rubber roadways. If the progress made has not been as great as might have been expected, it has not been negligible, despite the unwillingness of more than one municipal corporation to recognize facts and lend a helping hand. What a very short while ago was an ideal has now become practical business. We need not here go into the points covered by Mr. Gaisman, Mr. F. G. Smith, and others in our columns in reply to the Glasgow detractors. What interests

us at the moment is that those who showed initiative and enterprise fifteen or sixteen years ago in making very valuable experiments in rubber roadways are now taking full advantage of the slump in rubber prices. Costs per square yard have been brought down to less than half, and with increased production, would come down still further. Municipal economists capable of taking the long view, recognize that rubber roadways in heavily trafficked thoroughfares must come. In an age of ever-growing noise and strain they alone will make city life tolerable. But they are not the only directions in which civilization will find in rubber its haven of refuge and peace.—*Rubber Age.*

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COFFEE

PLANTATION COFFEE.—We have no change to report so far as the market for forward delivery is concerned and no transactions have taken place.

As regards the spot market, we hear of one small sale during the week at Rs. 51 per cwt. *ex* bags and there are buyers to-day at anything from Rs. 50 to Rs. 51 for a limited quantity. These prices are being paid on behalf of Tamil buyers, and local buyers for export are not quoting more than Rs. 49 per cwt. *ex* bags.

NATIVE COFFEE.—Since last writing we hear of purchases upcountry at the following rates :—

Chickmagalur	... Rs. 175 per cdy. of 576 lbs.
Somwarpett	... „ 170 „ „ 565 „

Locally there have been no forward transactions and only a few small spot sales of good estate pounded at Rs. 180 to Rs. 185. Inferior qualities of pounded and estate hulled are at present meeting with a poor demand.

—*Peirce Leslie & Co. Ltd., December 20, 1930.*

DJASINGA RUBBER AND PRODUCE COMPANY, LIMITED YEAR'S RESULTS

CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT OF RUBBER ESTATES

MR. ERIC MACFADYEN'S SPEECH

(Reprinted from the 'Financial Times' of December 2, 1930).

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of the Djasinga Rubber and Produce Company, Ltd., was held yesterday in the Council Room of the Rubber Growers' Association, 2-4, Idol-lane, E.C., Mr. Eric Macfadyen, Chairman of the company, presiding.

Mr. J. Mitchell Thom, on behalf of the secretaries, Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd., having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: May we, as usual, take the report and accounts as read? (Agreed.)

I will ask you to turn first to the Java Company's accounts. You will see that we spent F. 123,176 on our estates and a further F. 113,800 on buildings and plant. Both rubber factories had to be equipped with additional drying space to provide for the increase in crops which materialized during the year, and we had to build a superintendent's bungalow on

the new Oil Palm division. Further, the water power at the tea factory was supplemented by an oil engine to serve as a standby in the event of break-down. You will see also that these capital outlays, amounting together to approximately £19,740, were offset to the extent of approximately £10,460 (F. 125,566) by deductions for depreciation. We have no extensions on hand or in contemplation at the moment, but the modernization of our tea factory will call for some further expenditure there during the current year.

JAVA COMPANY'S RESULTS

The Java Company's profit and loss account shows a net loss of £19,477. That, however, is after it has been charged with 6 per cent. interest on this company's advances to it—which constitute, as you know, our main investment. On turning to our own profit and loss account you will see that item figures for £15,080, which is shown as distinct from the interest received on our gilt-edged investments. Our booked loss in the sterling accounts is the relatively small amount of £1,354 18s. 2d., and is much less than the amount we have (in accordance with our usual scale) written off from the book value of the estates, as I have just explained. Considering market conditions, you will not, I imagine, consider that a bad result.

Our rubber estates continue to be an improving property. I have inspected them myself since our last annual meeting, and was highly gratified by the state of cultivation in which I found them. The condition of the trees, yields and costs, as compared with four years before, when I last saw them—still more as compared with ten years ago, at the time of my first visit—afford a striking demonstration of what can be achieved by scientific methods of cultivation, and reflect great credit upon Mr. Wenniger, our head manager, and also upon Mr. Fermin, who was in acting charge of the estates at the time of my visit. We may fairly take a share of the credit to ourselves also—as Mr. Wenniger would be the first to admit—for having supplied the sinews for a scientific campaign, now persisted in over many years, with no niggard hand.

IMPROVEMENT IN YIELD

It may interest you to know that whereas our yield per acre in 1925–26 was only 183 lbs., last year (after consistent annual increases) it had been worked up to 324 lbs.; and that whereas we have applied roughly a similar sum annually to the manuring of our rubber, the cost of manuring per pound, which worked out at a full penny over the whole crop in the earlier of these periods, came to no more than 0·6 of a penny in the year now under review. The higher yields due to manuring explain, of course, the lower incidence per unit of crop.

Our rubber crop for the year, as you will have seen from our report, was 1,835,957 lbs. It would have handsomely exceeded 2,000,000 lbs. but for the tapping holiday we observed in May—in common with most European producers. If it paid us to do so, we estimate that we could produce 2,500,000 lbs. this year (1930–31).

REORGANIZATION OF TEA FACTORY

Like our rubber, our tea showed a small loss, and, in this case, at a fractionally higher cost than in the year before. Here, too, we produced our largest crop so far, and might have produced a larger. Tea producers generally have been practising a self-denying ordinance—and with beneficial

results, in so much as the actual and prospective holding off from the market of a considerable addition to the existing surplus undoubtedly has prevented a disastrous collapse in tea prices. As, however, the restricted output agreed upon has been based on actual output in 1929, and the negotiations towards agreement were not completed until near the end of our financial year (which, as you know, ends in June), a very heavy curtailment of crop was called for in the last two months of our period. This accounts for our costs working out slightly above the previous level.

The scale of yield on the tea estates continues, as in the case of the rubber estates, to improve. It remains to improve further the quality of the tea made, and we have been devoting earnest attention to this during recent months. We are now undertaking as a preliminary step a complete reorganization of our factory arrangements, which, we hope and believe, will in time enable us to secure the desired results.

OIL PALM ESTATE

Development of Tjimaratja, our oil palm estate, has been carried as far as, for the time being, we think desirable. The lay-out and development of this property are a model, and growth of the palms is healthy and regular, though not exceptionally forward. No part of the oil palm estate will be in bearing this financial year, and the general slump in commodity prices, in which the products of the oil palm have shared, gives little encouragement to accelerate production at the moment. We are, however, experimenting with manuring methods and do not doubt that, as in rubber and tea, we shall find that the correct line of ultimate advance.

In addition to our shareholding in and advances to the N. V. Cultuur Maatschappij Jasinga, which I have referred to as 'the Java Company,' we some time ago—as you were advised last year by Mr. Miller in my absence—agreed to make advances on an estate in which our head manager, Mr. Wenniger, is interested, where two varieties of hemp and a mixed coffee and rubber plantation are under cultivation.

At the date of our accounts, our advances to Mr. Wenniger amounted to £16,494 19s. 2d., and it is intended that our maximum commitment shall not exceed £25,000 at the outside. Had we been able to look ahead, possibly we might have preferred to keep our money in the bank; but I am glad to say that, agriculturally, these experimental cultivations have fully justified themselves. On the commercial side, both on our own account and on Mr. Wenniger's, we must hope for a successful issue.

The record of the period under review is one of steady progress and development. One has to remember that it began in July, 1929. By July, 1930, the outlook differed widely from any which could have been foreseen at the earlier date. With rubber at its lowest price level since it became an important article of commerce, with the tea market calling for careful handling if a recession in price of that commodity also is to be avoided, and with the prospect before other products obscure—everything points to the wisdom of shortening sail. The management of an extensive and diversified undertaking such as ours is necessarily, at a time such as this, fraught with anxiety.

Within the last few weeks we have been surprised by a demand from the taxation authorities in Java to assess for profit-tax the sum paid us by another department of the same Government as compensation for the surrender of our freehold rights. This matter is under appeal, and I shall say no more at this stage except that, whatever may be the financial embarrassments of the Dutch Indies Government, I find it impossible to

conceive of any justification for reopening, after four years have elapsed, a bargain into which we should most certainly never have entered, on our side, had the possibility occurred to us that the figure agreed upon—after protracted negotiations and as the result of a compromise—would at a later date be ruled to be subject to a substantial refund. But I have such confidence in the fairness and justice of the Dutch Government that I decline to believe that we shall fail to obtain redress from the higher authorities.

PRODUCTION POLICY FOR CURRENT YEAR

Meanwhile, as to the future, we have taken every step open to us to limit our outlays and to minimize our losses during the present crisis. We are determined not to take off our rubber trees more than we can help of the bark it has cost years of progressive management to build up, merely to give it away without any profit to the company. We have therefore thought it right to cut down our staff and labour forces drastically (in some cases at the cost of personal hardship we deeply deplore), and shall produce this year barely two-thirds of the crop we should be harvesting under normal circumstances. I have told you that we are incurring some expenditure on our tea factory, but from this we hope for an early return in better prices for our tea. All our interests are being most carefully watched from this end as well as locally, with a view to the strictest economy; and it will be no fault of ours if we do not outlive the difficulties common to-day to all producing companies and emerge in good shape to take advantage of such opportunities for earning profit as the future may have in store.

I now move that the directors' report and the statement of accounts for the year ended June 30, 1930, be adopted. I shall ask Mr. Bingley to second, and after that I shall be pleased to reply to any questions.

Mr. R. N. G. Bingley seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

RE-ELECTION OF MR. BINGLEY TO THE BOARD

The Chairman: I now have very much pleasure in moving the re-election of my colleague, Mr. Bingley, and in taking the opportunity his re-election gives of referring to his many public-spirited services to the plantation industry generally. Mr. Bingley's record and experience qualify him peculiarly to serve as a liaison between Dutch and British planters, and in the present difficulties of the various plantation products, it is of very great value to have anyone so well qualified as Mr. Bingley and so ready to give freely and abundantly of his energies and time to that very important object. I am very proud to think that we have one who has played such a distinguished part in bringing the Dutch and British producers together, both in regard to rubber and tea, on this Board. But quite apart from that, Mr. Bingley is an ideal director of this particular company which, in fact, he assisted in forming. I have much pleasure in proposing that Mr. R. N. G. Bingley be re-elected a director of the company.

Mr. H. Eric Miller seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Messrs. Elles Salaman Hepburn & Co. were reappointed auditors, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors, the managers and staff on the estates, the visiting agents and the Eastern agents.

THE BRITISH LIKE THEIR TEA

The important position held by tea in the weekly or monthly budget of practically every family in the United Kingdom, is such that to-day packet tea is utilized as the principal drawing card for customers not only in the grocery stores, but in establishments not confined strictly to groceries—such as confectionery shops, restaurants, retail dairies and even fruit and vegetable stores, writes a correspondent to the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*.

There are more than 500,000 retail stores in the United Kingdom, and it is pretty safe to say that around 70 per cent of these are orthodox grocery establishments—chain, independent and co-operative. The competition in packet tea is rather disturbing to retailers, considering the number of grocery shops per population. In a community of 100,000 there will be found on an average nearly 200 grocery stores, which works out at 150 families per store, each of which consumes three-quarters to a pound of tea weekly. But the grocery stores do not get all of this trade in tea.

For instance, there is the milk retailer. The milk carrier brings packet tea to the housewife's door with the bottled milk once a day. Here in our own domicile we have quite a bit of tea from the milkman. He carries two types—Brooke Bond's and Lyons—and sells a lot of it, mostly at the popular price of 5d. and 6d. per quarter-pound. Our grocer, who delivers from his store two miles away, stocks almost all the teas, but since he comes out only twice a week, and the milkman comes every day, the latter fills the tea gap considerably. Our grocer, like many another independent merchant, has a special blend made up with his name on it and does pretty well with it. But it is a slightly cheaper tea than the nationally-known brands, and cannot compare in bouquet with such types as those handled by Lyons and Brooke Bond. Apart from the dairies, the grocers are up against competition in tea sales from powerful societies. The societies for the blind, for instance, handle packet tea. We have a young woman friend who comes to visit us occasionally. She is blind, and she earns a living by distributing packet tea in a house-to-house campaign in her own district. The blind society of which she is a member supplies the tea at a price that enables her to make a substantial profit. By selling so much of this tea each month, she qualifies for a small monetary allowance from the society. This is only paid providing a sightless member can earn a certain amount by her own efforts each month. This young woman probably is only one of thousands who have built up nice connections among the middle class families and some of the smaller local restaurants. Some of these customers, for sentimental reasons, deal almost exclusively with these sightless 'home workers' in tea, which they handle in various qualities and prices.

Needless to say, these private tea transactions cut into the volume of tea sales done by the legitimate retailers with heavy overhead and other merchandising expenses. But there it is! Tea lends itself to this sort of trading in a way that no other commodity, with the possible exception of coffee, could possibly hope to do.

COFFEE

As for coffee, it is out of the picture in a general way. One only drinks coffee in Britain on special occasions, or by way of variety as a beverage. Where one cup of coffee is consumed, 25 cups of tea will be in request. In the average home, tea is brewed at various intervals from sun-up to sun-down. Even during maternity cases, the ubiquitous teapot rules the roost. The mother has a cup of tea to help her through her ordeal; the nurse refreshes herself at the same fount. The doctor drops in, professional and alert, and accepts a cup of the beverage before departing—most likely without sugar.

There is 6.30 a.m. tea, tea again at breakfast; usually a luncheon cup at 11 a.m.; tea again at 2 or 3 'pip emma' (p.m.), tea at 'teatime' and very often a 'nightcap' of tea at 10 p.m. Especially is this the case in homes of the artisan class.

In summer one hears the remark: 'O, I am so hot; I must have a nice pot of tea.'

And in winter: 'Isn't it cold, to-day. Let's have a nice cup of tea to warm us up.' The potential tea drinkers of the future are the babies. They are initiated early into the ritual of tea drinking with a watered and milked-down solution that appears to hold greater attractions as a beverage than plain milk.

I have a three-year-old son who sits up in his cot promptly at seven every morning and insists on a man-size cup of diluted tea with his early morning biscuit. But if you try to ring the changes on him with ordinary milk, or milk just coloured with an Orange Pekoe brew—look out! Deny him the real thing and he becomes immensely indignant.

In the army it used to be a recognized thing that no man could be asked to turn out on early morning parades or fatigues without the 'gunfire' issue. 'Gunfire' was a mess-tin of tea and a biscuit (cracker). And I have known war-worn and weary men sacrifice a whole day's rations rather than forego their pint of tea, fragrant and steaming.

To-day one has only to visit any big building operation to notice the changes time has wrought in the customs of the 'working man.' The gentleman who bolted up girders, or laid bricks, or flopped a shovel in and out of cement, used to carry with him a pint of nut-brown ale for solace during his 'dinner hour.' His modern prototype carries tea and sugar instead, and brews his tea over an impromptu fire on 'the job.' In the office, the staff halts in its clerical stride for 3 o'clock tea. To butt in on this solemn function, is regarded almost as sacrilege. In the big factories the management recognizes the urge for tea and an official 10 minutes' break is allowed for the purpose. The workers contribute a few cents a week to a common fund which is utilized for replenishing tea, sugar and milk stocks. Two workers are nominated each morning to brew the tea and act as mess orderlies. When the tea whistle blows, the beverage is all ready.

In justification of this 10 minutes' tea halt in factory and office, employers say they get better results because of it. And no one is likely to dispute that.

The first time I ran up against the British tea fetish, was during an interview in the early war years with the managing director of a great commercial house. Right in the middle of our chat a spruce damsel rapped at the sanctum door and entered with a gaily decked tea tray.

'Ah,' said the director with huge satisfaction—'TEA!!'

And not until two cups of it were solemnly consigned below, and a cake or two munched, was business resumed. The click of typewriters ceased throughout the building, and a deep content settled over all.

Even the animals have the tea habit.

We have a terrier who answers to the name of 'Gyp' and every time we drink tea, he stands by ready for his saucerful. He drinks on an average three saucerfuls a day. The vets says: Give your dog tea to drink. It is good for him; it helps ward off distemper.

Whether it does or not I do not know.

But it gives some idea of the regard in which tea is held in this country, and explains to some extent why coffee is only a second best.

EXPORT OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING OCTOBER, 1930

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	...	...	319	...	...	6	...	...	91
Calicut	...	...	33	...	...	30	...	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	105	...	...	100	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	Previously	457	...	1,336	6,819	30	100	91	91
Total	Previously	5,135	...	59,489	31,507	3	301	1,757	1,757
Total cwts. since 1-1-30.	113,964	5,592	...	60,825	44,326	33	401	1,848	1,848
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Calicut	...	...	37,660	128,794	118,588	...	...	44,800	...
Cochin	...	...	...	160,586	506,695	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	180,769	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	62,213	171,128	...	...	...	4,760
Total	Previously	37,660	247,443	532,356	786,411	80,801	300	44,800	47,760
Total	Previously	285,103	5,236,161	6,763,466	80,801	300	300	89,600	45,548
Total lbs. since 1-1-30.	12,509,739	...	...	...	...	...	...	134,400	9,308
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	...	...	17,466	838,268	491,083	2,600	200	...	...
Calicut	...	...	24,467	53,307	1,023,389	2,513	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	61,634	...	13,776	90	724	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	Previously	103,567	1,598,376	2,747,895	5,208	924	...	12,078	...
Total	Previously	335,114	1,738,148	22,879,902	7,322	2,894	600	165,554	3,122
Total lbs. since 1-4-30.	29,600,704	438,681	3,336,524	25,627,797	12,530	3,818	600	177,632	3,122

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.

Average prices obtained for tea.

Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending Dec. 4, 1930	January 1 to Dec. 4, 1930	January 1 to Dec. 4, 1929
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, December 4, 1930)		s. d.	N. India.	s. d. 1 2·41	s. d. 1 2·72	s. d. 1 3·88
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —			S. India.	a 1 3·27	b 1 2·50	c 1 3·42
Nalla Mudi	108	1 7½	Ceylon...	1 7·24	1 6·60	1 7·05
Thay Mudi	221	1 6½	Java ...	1 11·92	0 10·19	1 0·12
Stammore	300	1 2½	Sumatra.	0 10·76	0 11·21	1 2·00
*Sholayar	114	1 2½	Nyassa-land	0 10·45	0 9·37	1 0·29
Kallyar	86	1 2½				
Sirikundra	114	1 1½	Total...	d 1 2·91	e 1 3·24	f 1 4·36
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i> —						
Munja Mallay	104	1 5				
Pasumally	90	1 4½				
Pambanar	62	1 4½				
Nellikai	100	1 4				
Glenmerry	78	1 4				
Mount	80	1 3½				
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —						
Surianalle	68	1 7½	a 6,083	b 323,306	c 337,545	
Yellapatty	170	1 7½	d 74,938	e 3,813,296	f 3,817,563	
Thenmallay	129	1 7½				
Gundumallay	159	1 7				
*Grahamsland	119	1 5½				
Chokanaad	104	1 4½				
(d) <i>Mundakayam</i> —						
Yendar	146	1 0½	(B) COFFEE.—			
			SPECIAL CABLE			
			LONDON 'A' QUALITY			
(e) <i>Nilgiris</i> —			DECEMBER 31, 1930 105 s. MARKET			
Nonsuch	111	1 9½	EASY			
*Prospect	106	1 8½				
*Ibex Lodge	110	1 7½				
(f) <i>Nilgiri-Wynaad</i> —			(C) RUBBER.—			
Wentworth	119	1 1½	The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, December 30, 1930 was 4½d.			
(g) <i>South Travancore</i> —			London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, December 27, 1930, were 77,328 tons, a decrease of 132 tons on December 20, 1930 inventory.			
Ani Erangel	250	1 4½				
Bon Accord	86	1 2½				
Koney	99	1 1½				
(h) <i>Wynaad</i> —			Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, December 27, 1930, were 40,593 tons, an increase of 293 tons on December 20, 1930 inventory.			
Arrapetta	98	1 1½				
Perengodda	80	1 0½				

*Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association on December 16, 1930.)

TEA.—Catalogues for the concluding Sale of the year held on December 16, 1930, amounted to 2,722,045 lbs. Quality was useful and showed a slight improvement, more especially in the case of Nuwara Eliya and Dimbulla offerings. With the exception of common teas, there was a good demand and prices were firm to dearer. NUWARA ELIYA & MATURATA. Quality showed slight improvement. All grades were in good request and satisfactory prices were obtained. HIGH GROWN. Quality was useful with Dimbulla teas showing better cup quality. Demand for all grades, except Orange Pekoes which were irregular, was strong and prices were firm, advances being paid for improved quality parcels. MEDIUM GROWN. Quality was in some cases rather better. Demand for all teas was strong and rates were fully steady. LOW GROWN. Orange Pekoes were irregular while other teas showed a decline of 1 to 3 cents. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. Were about steady.

South Indian Teas in Auction of December 9, 1930, obtained the following prices:—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Devabettu	4,350	83
Do	7,668	77
Chittavurrai	13,172	76
Kanniammallay	17,306	68
Sothuparai	19,348	67
Madupatty	16,787	66
Manalaroo	6,400	56
Connemara	7,440	53
Do	5,290	53

RUBBER.—About 224 tons were offered at the Auction held on December 11, 1930. There was a good general demand but prices were on a slightly lower level than those ruling in last auction. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet was a good market at 20½ cents bid showing a decline of one cent on last week's prices. Fair & Off quality Sheets met with very fair support but showed a similar decline while inferior quality sheet was half a cent easier. Contract Crepe met with a good enquiry at 20 cents bid showing a drop of one cent on previous rates. Off & Mottled sorts sold steadily at a half cent decline. Good Scrap Crepes were about steady at last prices but black and earth sorts fell away one cent. A good many inferior and tacky lots were unwanted and difficult of sale. Scraps sold at unchanged prices.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 2]

January 17, 1931

[Price As. 8

*All communications to be addressed to the Editor
Post Box No. 155, MADRAS*

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EDITORIAL

ON page 22 of this issue we are publishing an interesting article by the same correspondent, who, in our number of March 1, 1930 wrote on 'Tea Restriction and its probable effects on the industry.'

Tea Restriction Reviewed Our correspondent now, after the scheme has been in force for a year, reviews results and advocates that a further necessary measure should be taken by the Government of India, namely an increase in the Import Duty on tea which now stands at 15 per cent—he points out that, at this low figure, it is still remunerative for producers of cheap foreign teas to dump their produce into India, thus spoiling the market for Pure Indian Tea sold in this country.

This of course nullifies the efforts made and the expenditure incurred by Indian Planters to popularise tea throughout India and is obviously an unsatisfactory state of affairs.

STATISTICS which are now available show that British imports in 1930 show a reduction of £176 millions on 1929 while exports have fallen by £159 millions for the same period.

British Trade in 1930 The largest individual decreases in imports are raw cotton £32½ millions, grain £23 millions, non-dutiable food and drink £20½ millions, woollen materials £18 millions.

The outstanding reductions in exports were cotton manufactures £48 millions; iron and steel manufactures £17 millions; woollens £16 millions.

Re-exports in 1930 showed a decrease of 20 per cent compared with 1929.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

COFFEE CIRCULAR

There has been so little to report recently that the issue of this circular has been delayed, and still the coffee market is lifeless and prices are unchanged. Now the holidays are on and nothing is likely to happen till the New Year, which we hope will see better trade conditions generally—with prosperity for our many friends interested in coffee.

It will be of interest to you no doubt to learn that our Anupura Coffee Works have installed apparatus for fumigating all coffee bags before returning them to Estates—to prevent the possible spread of the terrible pest Stephanoderes Hampei.—*Peirce, Leslie & Co., Limited, December 30, 1930.*

* * * *

ANOTHER USE FOR RUBBER ?

A London evening newspaper suggests that in greyhound racing the dogs have long been dissatisfied with the hares, and that it must have been very mortifying for them to catch the hare and then find that they had got a mouthful of tin ; or that it should go to ground when they were just on the point of catching it. To remedy this legitimate grievance, it is suggested that a rubber hare with a practical squeak might be used, and the hounds allowed to catch and worry it. As there is no Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Rubber Animals, it is suggested that this idea will be approved, except for a protesting squeak, perhaps, from the rubber hare.

* * * *

RUBBER JACKETS FOR SKITTLES

The Berlin police recently ordered a skittle-alley keeper to equip every skittle with a rubber bandage in order to reduce noise. The order is said to be the sequel to complaints received from irate house-holders in the vicinity who have found their work and sleep interfered with by the constant noise.

LONDON TEA STOCKS

According to calculations compiled by the Tea Brokers' Association of London, from returns of London tea warehouses which are estimated to handle 90 per cent. of the imports, the stock of tea in London totalled 243,446,918 lb. at the end of November, against 235,678,789 lb. at the same date last year, and 204,223,378 lb. in 1928. The present stock is some 8½ million pounds up against the corresponding figure at October 31, following an increase of 11½ million pounds in October and the earlier seasonal increase in progress since the end of July. Imports of all teas to London during November were 47,372,697 lb., against 56,454,684 lb. last year, while deliveries were 38,500,965 lb., as against 42,214,448 lb. in the same month last year.

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES—FRANCE.

The Commercial Counsellor to H. M. Embassy at Paris reports that a Government Bill has been tabled proposing that, for a period of ten years as from the promulgation of the law, special duties shall be levied on all imports of the following products, at the rates specified :—

- (a) Rubber, balata, guttapercha, not worked or melted in the mass (Tariff No. 119)—60 cts. per kilog.
- (b) Coffee (Tariff No. 96) :
 - (1) In the bean and husks—10 cts. per kilog.
 - (2) Roasted or ground—15 cts. per kilog.
- (c) Sisal (Tariff No. ex 144)—10 cts. per kilog.

The yield from these duties is, it is proposed, to be distributed amongst the Colonies, Protectorates or territories under French mandate, concerned, within the limit of annual credits, as an offset to the losses incurred by local planters, etc., owing to the fall in prices of their products.

RESTRICTION OF THE 1931 TEA CROP

A cable has been received from Home advising that the Planters' Associations of Northern India, Southern India and Ceylon have unanimously decided to recommend limitation of the 1931 tea crops on the basis of the 1930 scheme reduced by 20 per cent.

This works out as follows :—

(a) Estates whose teas sold below an average for 1926, 1927, 1928 of 1s. 5d. per lb. London gross sale prices or the equivalent, to limit output to 88% of the 1929 crop.

(b) Estates whose teas sold below an average for 1926, 1927, 1928 of 1s. 7d. per lb. but not below 1s. 5d. per lb. London gross sale prices or the equivalent, to limit output to 92% of the 1929 crop.

(c) Estates whose teas sold below an average for 1926, 1927, 1928 of 1s. 9d. per lb. but not below 1s. 7d. per lb. London gross sale prices or the equivalent, to limit output to 96% of the 1929 crop.

(d) Estates whose teas sold at or above an average for 1926, 1927, 1928 of 1s. 9d. per lb. London gross sale prices or the equivalent, to limit output to 97½% of the 1929 crop.

Mature areas producing less than 400 pounds per acre are excluded from the scheme, other mature areas to restrict on production figures for 1929.

Extensions planted in 1925 to be assessed on 80 per cent; planted in 1926 on 60 per cent; planted 1927 or 1928 on 40 per cent of the mature yield of the estate with a restriction on the estimated yield from these young areas based on prices in the foregoing categories.

The scheme is conditional on 75 per cent support in North India, Ceylon, South India and British interests in Java and Sumatra and if adopted should result in a crop for the year of 11½ million pounds above the 1929 crop.

THE INDIAN TEA INDUSTRY

AFTER CROP RESTRICTION—WHAT

(From a Correspondent)

In the following notes an effort is made to give a general view of the Tea industry and of some of its many contributions to the development and the continued welfare of large tracts of India.

It is hoped that a consideration of these facts may emphasize the importance of the industry from which we gain our livelihood, and indicate means by which that great industry may be prevented from falling from its high estate.

The uncertainty of our present position must surely impel us to united action before the weaker concerns break under the continued strain.

SOME OF OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIA'S WELFARE.

We cultivate 770,000 acres of tea in Assam, Bengal, Madras and various Indian States.

We provide congenial and remunerative work for over a million manual labourers including their wives and children : for many thousands of educated Indians in various clerical, medical and supervising capacities, and for a few thousands of European employees.

We have been instrumental in bringing into the country capital amounting to £ 45,000,000 during the last fifty years and we have drawn only very moderate average dividends on that large capital during all these years. In addition to these vast sums invested directly in tea, we have brought about further indirect investments in roads, railways and harbours and by contributing to the welfare of commercial houses in Calcutta, Madras, Chittagong, Calicut, Cochin and other centres of business and activity, we have helped in large trade developments.

We have cleared the jungles and settled waste places and peopled them. We have brought millions of law-abiding and industrious people into these waste areas and by the help of the money they have earned on our estates, many of them have become well-to-do cultivators and have now a very considerable stake in these newly-settled tracts. We have voluntarily contributed to medical and sanitary developments, to Communications and to Educational Institutions.

We have contributed our full share to all the usual taxes of the District, the Province, and the Indian Empire—land revenue, income-tax, super-tax, excess profits tax when in existence, roads and carriage taxes and innumerable others.

Over and above these taxes, we have paid for grazing rights, timber rights, fuel rights, water rights, and other rights.

We have voluntarily taxed ourselves to provide roads for the general public and in the past we have frequently handed over for public use and free of charge, many miles of roads that we had blazed through the virgin jungle, the swamps, the haunts of the rhino, elephant and tiger.

We have sent out into the highways and by-ways and encouraged the famine-stricken and the needy to come to a land of plenty.

We have brought these enormous numbers of primitive and uneducated peoples under careful guidance and frequently over thousands of miles of journey.

We have clothed and fed—not only the healthy but their helpless infants and their old and infirm.

We have provided medical assistance for all—including the incurably diseased who are useless to us as workers and likely to remain so.

We maintain a hospital and dispensary on almost every estate. Most of our estates provide medical assistance for all estate workers and also for numerous villagers including many people who never work on our estates.

We have contributed towards the cost of Government and other medical surveys and have helped in checking kala-azar, malaria, leprosy and other malignant diseases.

We have paid and housed our workers well and hope to continue doing so.

THE ENCOURAGEMENT WE HAVE RECEIVED.

We are subject to many inspections from Government officers and, regardless of whether all these officers are armed with legal rights to inspect us or not, we have never failed to receive and treat them hospitably.

We are expected to give information about hours of work, rates of pay, the incidence of sickness and disease and all this we fully and freely do.

We have been subject to many commissions of enquiry and numerous Acts have been passed to control our relations with potential or actual labourers.

Some of these regulations have become so complicated that many of us now find it almost impossible to get labourers brought to our Assam gardens and when we succeed in getting a few, the cost has become prohibitive. Fortunately, there has been a change in the outlook recently and increased facilities are to be given us in the future.

Politicians and others falsely charge us with cruelly ill-treating and with overworking our labourers. Such unfounded charges require no refutation and, indeed, we have rarely taken the trouble to deny any of them. Possibly that inaction was a mistake and may have encouraged adverse critics.

THE SLUMP IN TEA.

We are now suffering from what looks like being a real slump and it will be necessary for us to change our tactics.

We have depended far too long on our actions speaking for us and as that policy has not produced much effect, we must now adopt other methods. The time seems ripe for us to put our case before those Governments to which we have been so consistently loyal and helpful and to ask—if not for help in return—at least for protection against outside competition.

For example we have taxed ourselves through our Tea Cess Committee for the purpose of encouraging the consumption of tea in this country. Beyond helping us to collect this tax, no Government has offered to assist in the work, a work which, if not beneficial, is at least innocuous. Far from being offered help us in such work, we are now being asked to perform some of the unpopular duties of a Provincial Government in running shops for the sale and control of alcoholic liquors in our cooly lines.

We continue to popularize the use of tea, often against interested anti-propaganda, with no assistance from any Government and as fast as we do so, the imports from foreign countries increase and take a larger share of that market that we have developed at much expenditure of money and of effort.

At present the imports of foreign tea into India amount to 9½ million pounds a year and if allowed to flow in unchecked, these imported teas will adversely affect our markets and so jeopardize the welfare of many of India's most contented workers.

The Indian Tariff Board has granted protection to Tinplate works employing a few hundred hands. It has granted protection and subsidies to three-ply factories employing less than a thousand. Paper mills claim and obtain protection on the ground that a proportion of their raw materials is produced in the country as compared with 100 per cent of ours. Iron and steel is heavily protected although the industry is of small proportions when compared with the Tea Industry.

WHAT WE MIGHT DO.

Our Representatives in the Councils of Assam, Madras, Bengal and Travancore might put forward resolutions asking that the present ineffective import duty on tea be raised to thirty-three and a third per cent and, by stressing what we have done and are still doing as citizens, secure the support of Indian Members of these Councils.

Our Representatives at Delhi could put forward resolutions to the same effect, and claim similar support in the Assembly.

This seems a favourable time to ask for an increase in the Tea import duty when the accounts of Provincial and Central Governments are likely to show heavy deficits.

We should approach the Tariff Board direct and emphasize the parlous state of many of our smaller concerns and the need for developing and retaining the Indian market for our cheaper grades of tea.

Having succeeded in this, and there is every reason to anticipate success, we should embark on an intensified propaganda for the sale of sound, sweet and reasonably priced 100 per cent Indian teas in India.

CROP RESTRICTION WILL THEN COME TO AN END.

Artificial restriction of our output, unless accompanied by an agreement not to plant further areas, can be of no permanent or real help. We know that large areas of young tea have still to come into bearing in Java, Sumatra, Kenya, etc. where large yields are obtained and where the bulk of the crop consists of the lower priced teas.

Competition must become more and more intense in those grades and we must be prepared to meet this competition either by producing as cheaply or by putting a better quality of tea on the market.

The reduction of our crop does not help towards the former and can only help to a limited extent with the latter. Therefore we must leave ourselves free to produce to the best advantage that our estates are capable of doing and no longer hamper ourselves by these temporary and only partially effective agreements.

The present restriction of crop can only be of passing help to our industry as a whole and then only if we use the breathing space so provided to develop our markets. In the meantime it will have the effect of leaving many of us in a weakened condition to face all the difficulties of that intensified competition that must come sooner or later.

If we can secure Government support to the extent above suggested, we can then develop an internal market for all our cheaper grade teas, leaving the higher grades for export and so raising the reputation of Indian tea in the markets of the world.

This will enable us to return to a normal cropping system, each estate will revert to the plan of work best suited to its individual circumstances and that which can be carried out most profitably. Our managers will then have fewer irritating restrictions to enforce on their workers and this will result in a more contented labour force than we can expect if restriction be persisted in.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—SRIVILLIPUTTUR DIVISION

Sivagiri Agency

M. Rengasamy Naidu has been appointed as the Sivagiri Agent from December 1, 1930, in the place of Mannar Naidu (deceased). His headquarters is Visvanathaperi, Sivagiri P.O., Sankaranayinarkovil Taluk, Tinnevelly District.

A. H. MACKIE,

*Superintendent**January 3, 1931.*

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DISTRICT NOTES

MYSORE

The Proceedings of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Mysore Planters' Association (incorporated) held at the Kadur Club, Chickmagalur on Thursday, December 18, 1930

Present :

Messrs. E. W. Fowke (*Chairman*), E. H. Beadnell, H. Browne, F. Cannon, H. Clement-Davies, M. A. deWeck (by proxy), S. H. Dennis, H. H. English, Ferrer, F. J. Fowke, L. Garret, O. Garrett, C. H. Godfrey A. L. Hill, C. S. Iron, L. P. Kent, R. C. Lake, W. H. F. Lincoln, S. L. Mathias, G. W. Mayow, D. Meppen, A. Middleton, L. Newcome, R. O. Oliver, St. Pourcain, W. F. Scholfield (by proxy), H. Watson and C. C. Couchman (*Secretary*).

Visitors :

Messrs. S. H. Morgan and W. W. Mayne.

Letters regretting inability to attend were received from Dr. Leslie Coleman, Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D.S.O. and Mr. E. W. Rutherford.

The Secretary read the notice calling the Meeting.

Before proceeding with the business of the day, the Chairman addressed the following words to the Meeting, all members standing.

'It is with regret I have to refer to the death of Mr. A. R. Park who died at Hassan on October 21.

He belonged to an old Scotch family, was educated in Edinburgh and subsequently was in the city for a year or two, where he was a member of the London Scottish. He came out to the Cadamaney Estates in the mid-eighties, after some years there he joined the late Mr. R. H. Elliot in 1894 as managing partner of the Battinhulla Estate, of which he eventually became proprietor. He was one of our most able and hard-working Planters, and I think, if he had taken life easier he might have been alive to-day. As a sportsman, in the real sense of the term, there never was a better; he helped the Government to frame the Game Laws and was instrumental in starting the Game Association to help enforce them. In his earlier years he took a great interest in Planting Politics and was Honorary Secretary of the South Mysore Association and subsequently on three occasions President of that Association. As a friend he was one of the best and most loyal a man could have; he did many kind and generous actions that were not given publicity, and was always a champion of the oppressed whether of his own community or amongst his Indian neighbours'.

I suggest we ask our Secretary to communicate our condolences with his wife and relatives in their great loss.

Carried, all standing.

* The Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION
FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 11, 1930 TO NOVEMBER 30, 1930**

Meetings.—One Quarterly General Meeting and one Executive Committee Meeting have been held.

References.—The Secretary has made 28 references to the Committee, all of which have been dealt with.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Buntwal-Mudigere Mails.—The Postmaster-General reports that tenders have been called for the carriage of Mails between these two points by bus, and are being examined. He will revert.

Santaveri-Chickmagalur Mails.—The Postmaster-General states that he has called upon the Superintendent of Posts, Mysore, to furnish full report on the proposal to establish a Mail bus service between the above two post offices.

ROADS.

Charmady Ghat, Mysore Section.—Representation was made to the Chief Engineer in Mysore, and an increase in the allotment on this section was requested. This was refused on the grounds of expense. Our Member of the Legislative Council has been requested to bring this matter to the notice of the Council, and to try and obtain an increase in the grant.

Charmady Ghat. S. Kanara Section.—The repair and general reconstruction works so often referred to in these Reports is now in hand, and traffic is regulated as under until the completion of the work.

From Mangalore side to Frontier.	Motor traffic from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cart do. do. 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.
From Frontier to Mangalore Side.	Motor do. do. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Cart do. do. 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Hassan District Board.—The usual formalities in connection with our seat on the Board have been completed, and Mr. Hill has been accepted as our candidate.

Birur Manure Shed.—Mr. Oliver has obtained and submitted an estimate for the construction of seven doors for this shed at a cost of Rs. 750.

The matter is referred to the Association in General Meeting.

Delegates to the U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting—Delegates' expenses in connection with the Annual Meeting have been paid at the usual rates.

Income-tax on Profits of Tea Companies.—An amendment in the Income Tax Rules is proposed by Government, the draft amendment reading as follows:—

'24—Income derived from the Sale of Tea grown and manufactured by the Seller shall be computed as it were income derived from business, and 40 per cent of such income, profits and gains liable to Tax.'

Your Committee examined the matter, and, in view of the fact that amendment merely brings the Mysore Regulations in line with those in British India, decided to lodge no protest.

Discount on Cheques.—There is nothing further to report in this connection. The report of the Central Banking Enquiry Committee is not yet published. It is felt that no alterations in the present system of discounts on cheques will be made until the Report is available.

Coffee Cess Regulations.—Your committee examined the position whereby under the Coffee Cess Regulations, Land planted with Tea is made to pay this Cess. In view of the fact that such lands are classed as Coffee lands, and are assessed at 4 annas less per acre than on so-called Tea lands under the same terms of tenure, your Committee decided to take no steps in the matter.

The point is placed on record for the information of the Association.

Dharkast Rules and upset price of Lands.—No further reply has been received from the Secretary to Government in regard to our representation on these two points.

Suspension of Benefits.—Your Committee are not satisfied with the position as it stands at present. Messrs. King & Partridge, who drew up the Articles of Association, now maintain that these Articles allow a defaulter, whose benefits have been suspended, to proceed against the Association for damages. The Secretary, the U.P.A.S.I., has been requested to ask Messrs. King & Partridge whether they will rectify the matter free of cost.

Stephanoheres Hampei. Bag Disinfection.—The Secretary, the U.P.A.S.I., was requested to obtain the opinion of all Associations interested in Coffee, and if support was forthcoming, to circulate all Coffee curers on behalf of those Associations, asking for efficient disinfection of Coffee crop bags.

Certificates of Origin.—The Director of Agriculture, who is empowered to issue Certificates of Origin, was asked whether it would be possible for such power to be transferred to another in order to avoid possible delay whilst he is on tour. Further, in the case of Coffee from Association estates, whether it would be possible for one or two senior members of this Association to be given the authority.

The Officiating Director of Agriculture has replied that proposals have been made to Government regarding the delegation of the power of issuing Certificates of Origin to a Departmental Officer in the planting area. The orders of Government are awaited. The Officiating Director did not think it possible to adopt our suggestion that members of this Association be empowered to grant certificates.

After examination and reference to authorities, your Committee have come to the conclusion there is no need for a Certificate of Origin to be issued in the case of Coffee exported to British India from Mysore by land, and consider the wording of the Regulation clear in this respect.

Importation of Coffee into Travancore and Cochin.—The importation of Coffee from places outside India into these two States has been prohibited.

Proposed Deputation to Government of India.—The Central Government has addressed Provincial Governments in order to find out their attitudes towards the complete prohibition of raw Coffee imports into India. It is thought advisable to allow time for those replies to reach the Central Government before pressing for a deputation to be sent.

Hassan Goods Shed.—Your Committee, at the request of Mr. Hill, have re-examined the resolutions thrown out at the last Meeting in regard to the Hassan Manure Shed. It is felt that there was a misunderstanding at that Meeting and 'o rectify the matter the following resolution is placed before the Meeting :—

'It shall be a recognized convention that all matters concerning the running of the Hassan Goods Shed, except finance, be voted on by those members alone whose estates subscribed to the Goods Shed Fund on an Acreage basis.'

Concession Rates for Coffee, Pepper and Cardamoms from Mysore Planting Stations to Mangalore via Marmagao.—The Rail and Shipping companies interested are discussing this matter, and no decision has been reached to date.

The Coffee Board Scheme.—The Secretary, the U.P.A.S.I., was requested to enquire how the proposed charges on South India in connection with the advertising scheme was calculated.

'The Coffee Outlook.'—Delegates from the Coorg Planters' Association have been invited to meet this Association at the Quarterly General Meeting on December 18, and to explain the scheme.

H. BROWNE,
R. O. OLIVER,
R. C. LAKE,

} Members.

E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

Certificates of Origin.—The Secretary was instructed to ask the Director of Agriculture to send all certificates direct to Curing agents unless requested to do otherwise.

Birur Manure Shed.—Mr. Oliver explained that he had been able to cut down the original estimate for erecting doors to Rs. 500. The Secretary was instructed to place this amount at Mr. Oliver's disposal.

Hassan Manure Shed.

Resolution put forward by the Executive Committee.

'It shall be a recognized convention that all matters concerning the running of the Hassan Goods Shed, except Finance, be voted on by those Members alone whose Estates subscribed to the Goods Shed Fund on an Acreage basis.'

Carried.

Mr. Hill thanked the Committee for having put the matter right.

Reports of District Board Members.—Mr. Oliver gave an account of the activities of the Kadur District Board since the last Meeting, and enquired if members required any further information.

Report of the Member of Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly.—

The Chairman explained that this report had been circulated to all members, and asked whether members wished any of the subjects treated brought up for discussion. No suggestions being forthcoming, the subject was closed.

The Coffee Experimental Farm.

Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Fowke, moved the following resolutions :—

1. 'This Association request that the Coffee Experimental Farm should experiment with Chick Coffee grafted on to Robusta, with a view to improving the qualities of the Coffee Bean.'

2. 'That this Association, whilst acknowledging the useful work that has been done by the Mysore Agricultural Department in combating Green Bug, requests that the Coffee Farm should endeavour to find a more efficient insecticide and an insecticide that is coloured to show up on sprayed leaves.'

3. 'That the Agricultural Department be asked to investigate the high charges for the fish oil soap used.'

The Chairman explained that in regard to the first two resolutions, the Director of Agriculture had been consulted, and a reply had been received to the effect that the suggested grafting would be taken up. Planters with good suckers on Chick plants of high yield were asked to reserve same for the use of the Station, the young plants of that type already growing on the Station being too young and untested for the purpose.

The resolutions were then put to the vote, and

Carried.

Mr. Oliver then addressed the Meeting on the subject of Green Bug, stating that he fully realized the excellent work which had been done and is being done by the Station, but that he thought the subject of Green Bug ought to receive more attention.

Mr. Mayne explained that the Green Bug pest was being investigated by the Station. Last year experiments were carried out but unfortunately the Green Bug did not reappear in the plot, thus upsetting most of the work. He added that the subject was before the officers concerned and that work was being done. In works of this nature the needs of the majority must first be considered. Leaf Disease and Die Back had been investigated first because these affected a far greater acreage than Green Bug, adding, however, that the Green Bug had by no means been overlooked. Mr. Oliver suggested that Green Bug experiments be carried out in other areas, in which Green Bug was known to be bad.

The Coffee Outlook.—The Chairman asked the Coorg Delegate to address the Meeting on the subject of Coffee marketing and propaganda as outlined in the pamphlet 'The Coffee Outlook.' Mr. Morgan then explained that the article by Mr. Iron entitled 'The Coffee Outlook' was not in itself a scheme, but rather a few suggestions put up as a basis for discussion from which some definite scheme might evolve. The best method of doing so was to form a sub-committee to go into the matter thoroughly and put forward suggestions to their respective Associations. The Coffee industry was undoubtedly facing a crisis, and he thought that every effort ought to be made to maintain, if not improve, coffee prices.

The first thing to be done was to decide whether the Meeting was in favour of any scheme for the better marketing of our coffee in India being worked out, and then go into details.

Mr. Oliver whilst expressing approval of the ideas, suggested keeping in view the Coffee Board's Advertising Scheme. Both schemes ought to be considered.

Mr. Clement-Davies explained that the proposed charge on South India by the Coffee Board was unreasonably high and out of proportion.

Mr. Morgan remarked that the consideration of a scheme of marketing in this country did not preclude members from supporting the Coffee Board's Scheme.

Mr. Newcome then addressed the Meeting, and suggested that before the discussion proceeded any farther the opinion of the Meeting must be taken.

Seconded by Mr. Fowke, he put forward the following resolution :—

'That this Meeting is in favour of promoting a scheme for the better marketing of our produce in India.'

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Newcome then explained that the subject was a large one, and to be successful, must comprise all producers of coffee in India and must receive sympathetic support from Government. Some Coffee growers for various reasons do not belong to our Associations, therefore any action by the Association alone would not fully represent the Coffee interests.

Therefore he suggested the formation of a body for this purpose and moved the following resolution :—

'That this Meeting is in favour of forming a Coffee Growers' Association for the purpose of better marketing of Coffee in India.'

Mr. Fowke seconded the resolution.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman then read out the resolution proposed by Mr. Newcome and seconded by Mr. Iron reading as follows :—

'That this Association appoint two delegates to consider the points raised in the pamphlet called 'The Coffee Outlook' in conjunction with two C. P. A. delegates, and to lay considered proposals before the respective Associations interested.'

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Iron, at the request of the Chairman, then addressed the Meeting. He explained that his suggestions in 'The Coffee Outlook' were not intended as a definite scheme. They were to form a basis for the discussions by the Sub-Committee which was to be formed. He pointed out that the words 'Coffee Pool' were possibly a misnomer, a central selling board being what was intended. He would put all his ideas before the Sub-Committee, and nothing more could be done until it had produced some suggestions.

Two members for the Sub-Committee were then balloted for, and Messrs. Hill and Kirwan were elected.

Mr. Kirwan thanked the Meeting and explained that he would willingly give the Committee any assistance in his power but that on account of the approaching curing season, he regretted it would not be possible for him to attend upcountry Meetings. He therefore asked the Meeting to elect another Member.

Mr. Oliver was elected in place of Mr. Kirwan.

Mr. Kirwan added on behalf of the Coffee curers that they were not opposed in any way to a better marketing scheme for Coffee in India.

The Chairman then thanked the speakers for their interesting debate.

Date of Next Meeting.—The date of the Annual General Meeting was fixed for April 22, 1931.

Read letter from Lt.-Col. Tarr.

Read letter from Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock.

With a vote of thanks to the President and members of the Kadur Club, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.*

C. C. COUCHMAN,
Secretary.

E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

NILGIRIS

Proceedings of an Ordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri Planters' Association held on December 19, 1930, at 3 p.m. at the Coonoor Club.

Present :

Mr. C. L. Greig, *Chairman*, Messrs. G. W. Hollings, A. K. Weld Downing, C. W. Hayne, C. Vernede, F. L. Gordon, E. G. Windle, C. R. T. Congreve, R. N. C. Grove, L. L. Porter, W. Ward, D. Murray Clarke, H. S. Cameron, P. A. Henderson, W. A. Cherry, R. J. Layard, W. E. Forbes, J. B. Vernede, and S. H. Dean (*Honorary Secretary*).

Notice calling the Meeting was read.

Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

Stephanoderes.—Mr. Congreve gave the Meeting the latest information on this.

Benevolent Fund.—Proposed by Mr. Grove and seconded by Mr. Weld Downing 'that Rs. 100 from this Association's funds be donated to the Planters' Benevolent Fund', *Carried unanimously*.

Personal subscriptions were then invited and Rs. 300 was subscribed by members present.

Profession Tax.—The Chairman explained this tax to the Meeting, and Mr. Grove proposed and Mr. Weld Downing seconded the following resolution, 'That this Association views with dismay the ever-increasing tendency to levy fresh taxation by District Board and Municipality and requests the Chairman to co-opt such other members of the Association as may be necessary to form a Sub-Committee to go thoroughly into the question of the new profession tax and other local taxes and to put the matter up before the Government of Madras through the Planting Member, and if necessary to interview His Excellency the Governor of Madras'.

Carried unanimously.

The following Committee was then proposed from the Chair, and agreed.

Messrs. R. N. C. Grove, J. B. Vernede, E. G. Windle, W. Ward, A. K. Weld Downing, and C. L. Greig.

Telephone Service.—Several complaints from subscribers were read to the Meeting, and it was proposed by Mr. Weld Downing and seconded by Col. Porter and *carried unanimously* 'that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to the Authorities concerned as follows :—

- (1) Complaining of the Telephone service in general in the Nilgiris.
- (2) Proposing that telephone wires running under high tension wires should be efficiently insulated.
- (3) That outlying subscribers' lines should be patrolled systematically instancing Mr. Downing's complaint that during last S.-W. Monsoon his line was broken by a falling tree and remained unattended for four days.

Labour.—A letter from the U.P.A.S.I. was read and recorded, and members were asked to consider the best line to be adopted in this matter in time to frame a resolution for the next U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting at Bangalore.

U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting, Bangalore, was discussed.

Sports Club.—Proposed from the Chair that this question be left to those Associations that are more actively interested.

Mr. Weld Downing proposed and Col. Porter seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the Bangalore Delegates for representing this Association.

District Association Meetings.—Proposed from the Chair that this Association whilst welcoming all fair criticism of the U.P.A.S.I. from members of District Associations considers that no good can arise from publishing in the public press or *Planters' Chronicle*

of such letters and speeches as have lately appeared in the *Madras Mail* dealing with the pay of the employees of the parent Association and feel that such action far from doing good only tends to antagonise the employees and to bring the U.P.A.S.I. into ridicule with the public. *Carried unanimously*, and the Meeting recommended the Executive Committee, if thought fit, to publish this resolution, and that copies should be sent to all District Associations.

Subscription, N.P.A.—Proposed from the Chair that the second half of current year's subscription be not collected.

Postal Services.—Proposed from the Chair that the Hony. Secretary write to the Postmaster-General recommending a Bus service between Coonoor and Kullakamby for tapal.

Carried unanimously.

Licensing of Lorries.—Read letter from Mr. Elkington. The Meeting recommended that this be gone into by the Sub-Committee appointed to consider Profession Tax, as this came under the heading of taxation.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Hony. Secretary, Coonoor Club, for the use of the room.

MUNDAKAYAM

**Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Mundakayam Planters' Association
(Incorporated) held in the Mundakayam Club on Saturday,
January 3, 1931 at 2-30 p.m.**

Present:

Messrs. O. J. Egan-Wyer (*Chairman*), N. B. Hartley (R.A.C. Member), C. L. McLean, H. B. Macpherson, M. R. Coghlan, R. M. Saywell, R. Harley, H. R. Bowling, A. J. Fray, Jas. Todd, B. S. I. Champion, J. Doig, G. Parkinson, and R. A. McKay (*Honorary Secretary*).

The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the Meeting. Proposed by Mr. Macpherson that the Minutes of the last General Meeting be confirmed. Seconded by Mr. Coghlan, and

Carried.

The Chairman explained that the Meeting had been called to discuss the suggestions put forward at the Special Committee Meeting of December 17, which had met to go into the question of economies in U.P.A.S.I. expenditure. The Meeting was the outcome of Mr. Vincent's speech of November 15.

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting were read in full, and also a letter from the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. regarding the circulation of accounts, received in reply to the request from the Association for a statement to-date. Mr. McLean pointed that if the statement of accounts which was being circulated to District Associations was not received shortly, there would be no time to deal with them properly before the holding of a General Meeting of Rubber Interests. In his opinion the Association must continue to press their point and not delay further by waiting for a copy of accounts. The need for economy was obvious and there was sufficient information to hand to justify a demand being made of the U.P.A.S.I. to reduce their expenditure.

At the request of Mr. Saywell, the letters from the West Coast and South Travancore Associations (dated December 5, and November 26, respectively) in reply to Mr. Vincent's speech were read by the Honorary Secretary, and a letter of later date from the Chairman of the South Travancore Planters' Association on the same subject was read by the R.A.C. Member, Mr. Hartley.

It appeared that these two Associations were a little undecided as to whether a General Meeting of Rubber Interests was necessary or not, but it was suggested that if the M.P.A. wished to press the matter some date early in 1931, after the Proceedings of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of December 13, were known, and before the new season's Budget was framed, would be most suitable.

The Proceedings of the Executive Committee Meeting above mentioned were then read out in full.

Under heading 'No. 1202—Resignations', it was stated that the measures for further economy now proposed may induce those who have resigned to reconsider the matter'.

Mr. McLean enquired what those economies amounted to? From the Proceedings it was learned that 'Resolved to ask all Employees to accept as from January 1, 1931,

a reduction of 10 per cent in salaries and pay . . . , and that 'The Bonuses for passing Language Examinations . . . be suspended until further notice'.

Mr. McLean considered these economies did not go nearly far enough, and put forward that the Association must carry on with the proposals of the Committee as to a Delegation to the U.P.A.S.I. and a General Meeting of Rubber Interests, and asked the members present to consider giving their sanction to these proposals.

The Chairman stated that there was no wish to move without the concurrence of the other Associations, but the measure of support intimated was sufficient to justify this Association in doing what it could, and suggested that the Meeting should confirm the Proceedings of their Special Committee.

Referring to the Minutes, Mr. Hartley proposed that the date given for the Delegation meeting the Executive Committee should be deferred until after the General Meeting of Rubber Interests. This was agreed to, and Mr. Hartley then tabled the following Resolution :

'That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Committee held on December 17, 1930, be hereby confirmed, and that the Association unanimously support the proposals for Economies and Recommendations put forward by the above Committee.' Seconded by Mr. Bowling and

Carried unanimously.

Discussions followed on what would be the most suitable date for the General Meeting, bearing in mind that it must be held sometime before the framing of the U.P.A.S.I. Budget for 1931-32, and it was finally proposed by Mr. McLean that 'The date suggested by the Representative of the West Coast Planters' Association for the holding of a General Meeting of Rubber Representatives in Cochin, be accepted by this Association who will send Representatives.' Mr. Coghlan seconded and the Resolution was

Carried unanimously.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to wire the West Coast Planters' Association and South Travancore Planters' Association informing them accordingly, and the R.A.C. District Member was asked to write to the Secretary of the R.A.C. requesting him to communicate with the Committee and convene the Meeting. Representatives of leading firms in, or connected with the Rubber Planting Industry in South India were also to be invited to attend.

Mr. Coghlan's suggestion that the best procedure would be for the Delegate or Delegates to proceed direct from the General Meeting in Cochin to Madras to interview the Executive Committee was approved of by the Meeting, and it was proposed from the Chair that 'Mr. J. R. Vincent be elected as the Delegate from this Association to meet the Executive Committee in Madras, and that he be asked to attend the General Meeting in Cochin before proceeding to Madras if required.'

Carried unanimously.

On the proposal of Mr. McLean, seconded by Mr. Saywell, the Honorary Secretary was instructed to record 'That this Meeting regrets Mr. Vincent was unable to be present to-day, and that we look to him to be good enough to represent us on the Delegation.'

Carried unanimously.

The question of the Delegate's expenses was brought up and the Meeting was in agreement with the proposal from the Chair that the expenses of his visit to Cochin and Madras should be met by the Association.

Dealing with the third item on the Agenda, 'Instructions to Delegate,' the Chairman stated that the line to be adopted would follow closely the suggestions laid down by Mr. Vincent in his speech of November 15, but that much depended on the outcome of the open discussion on the question of U.P.A.S.I. Expenditure which it was hoped would take place at the General Meeting of Rubber Interests.

Mr. Hartley having received permission to present his Report as R.A.C. Member, laid before the Meeting the Draft Estimate for the Rubber Experimental Station for 1931-32, which had been prepared by Mr. Frattini for consideration by the Associations and the R.A.C.

Each item in the Estimate was dealt with in turn, along with a letter from Mr. J. R. Vincent suggesting proposed reductions in the running of the Station, and the R.A.C. Member was instructed to inform his Committee of the following recommendations of the Association for reductions in the Estimate.

It was recommended that—

(1) *Establishment.*—Chief Scientific Officer Mr. Taylor's salary be subject to the 10 per cent reduction applying to all other U.P.A.S.I. Employees; and a suggestion was made that his salary should be reduced to Rs. 800 per mensem.

Allowances.—Two allowances totalling Rs. 25 per mensem should be sufficient.

Mr. T. R. Ramaier.—This officer's services be terminated. While his ability and qualifications were recognized, his salary was more than could be afforded, and there was on the Station another member of the Staff who was capable of carrying on efficiently the work at present done by Mr. Ramaier, at a much smaller salary.

Mr. M. V. Mani.—Mr. Mani's salary be reduced to Rs. 40 per mensem.

General Charges : Upkeep of Grounds.—This item is unnecessary and should be deleted.

Upkeep of Buildings.—Rs. 500 under this heading would be sufficient.

Agency Charges.—In view of the fact that goods for the Station can be delivered through the M.T. & A.R. Co., this charge was unnecessary.

All remaining items were discussed, and allowed to stand as estimated.

Correspondence.—The Honorary Secretary read letters from the Chamber of Commerce, Cochin, enclosing correspondence from and with the Inspector of Customs, Madras, regarding new Regulations for Drawback Duty on Patent Chests.

The Chairman proposed that the Chamber of Commerce be thanked for the prompt measures they had taken, and assured of the support of the Association.

Electoral Rolls.—It was moved from the Chair that Mr. Lampard be approached to stand again for election to a seat on the Legislative Council for the forthcoming Session, and that this Association should nominate him and pay up the necessary Rs. 250 deposit.

Carried unanimously.

Several other letters on subjects connected with general reductions having been read for the information of members, the Chairman brought up the subject of Association's accounts, and the Honorary Secretary presented a statement of accounts to the end of December.

Two local cesses of one anna each having been called up, it was agreed by the meeting that the balance money required to meet expenditure for the year should be drawn from the credit balance standing on Current Account. This would still leave a credit balance to be carried forward to next season, and would not interfere with the Reserve or Fixed Deposit.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed when drawing up next Season's Budget to estimate the clerk's salary at the present figure, less 10 per cent, and to delete the Rs. 50 Bonus Money, as the latter could only be paid during prosperous times.

There being no other business brought forward, the Meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the Chair.

R. A. MCKAY,
Honorary Secretary.

O. J. EGAN-WYER,
Chairman.

WEST COAST

Minutes of an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the West Coast Planters' Association held in the Malabar Club, Calicut, on Saturday, January 3, 1931, at 2 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. J. T. Murray (*Chairman*), H. J. Walmsley, T. W. H. Fitchett, P. Y. Champion, L. Gillies, W. F. Campbell (*Honorary Secretary*).

1. *Minutes of last meeting.*—Were taken as read.

2. *Tappers' wages.*—The Honorary Secretary reported that he had written to the non-members in the West Coast area and had received replies from all agreeing to continue the present reduced rates.

Proposed from the Chair and carried unanimously that the reduction in rates decided on at the last meeting be continued for a further period of six months.

3. *Rubber Advisory Committee.*—The Association's member reported to the meeting on the working of the committee, and after discussion on the future programme of work to be carried out at the Mycological Station, the following resolution was put forward :—

Proposed by Mr. Fitchett and seconded by Mr. Champion, that this meeting confirm the action of the R. A. C. in recommending the return of the Aniekolam Station to the Travancore Rubber Company and wish to convey their thanks to Mr. Harley for lending the land.

Carried unanimously.

A copy of a letter from Mr. Ashplant dated November 25, 1930, to the Honorary Secretary, R. A. C., in reply to the Committee's request for his final report on the Tube Bore Theory, was read and recorded.

It was unanimously resolved that this Association wishes to place on record a note of appreciation of the work done by Mr. Frattini during the period he has been in charge of the Mycological Station.

4. Mundakayan Planters' Association's Resolutions.

The resolutions contained in their letter dated November 18, 1930 and the Committee's reply thereto regarding Upasi expenditure was fully discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the Committee's letter be adopted in the Minutes of this meeting and which is as follows :—

PALAPILLY P.O.,
November 24, 1930.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,

MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION,
MUNDAKAYAM P.O.

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge your letter of 18th instant with enclosures and have been instructed by my committee to reply as follows :—

Mr. J. R. Vincent's Speech.—Whilst agreeing with the main contentions in the address which you have sent us, my committee feel it is a matter for regret that the Mundakayan Planters' Association have taken up the matter of effecting economies at this late date.

They desire me to remind you of our resolutions which were communicated to you on July 14 and also to the report of our Association Meeting vide the *Planters' Chronicle*, dated October 11.

Our Association's views were placed before the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting at Bangalore by our delegates both in the meeting and the Lobby and in the words of our delegate's report 'they had done their utmost to effect economy in the running of the U.P.A.S.I. but were unsuccessful.'

We are of the opinion that as the opportunity afforded at the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. has now lapsed, it is unnecessary to hold a meeting of Rubber Interests to discuss economies for 1931-32 in the immediate future.

We understand that an Executive Committee's Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. will be held early in December and doubtless they will have for discussion the resolutions passed at Bangalore and also the need for effecting economies, information as to which would be very useful if a Rubber Interests Meeting is considered necessary; and the time for united action would seem to us to be when the U.P.A.S.I. Budget for 1931-32 is brought up for consideration.

Mr. Taylor.—At a recent General Meeting of Rubber Interests the subject of Mr. Taylor's appointment was fully discussed and we are informed by our R. A. C. Member who attended this Meeting, that it was decided that no action be taken and we are sorry to note that your Association are not in agreement with the decision arrived at there. Under the Articles of Association the only resignations, to our knowledge, that can take effect on March 31, 1930 amount to only 1,400 acres and the remainder cannot come into effect until a year later and for this reason the question of retaining a Scientific Officer should be held over for one year, as, if this matter be pressed now, it will cause the Executive Committee grave embarrassment.

In the meantime the views of all interests concerned can be carefully ascertained and moreover the proposals of the U.P.A.S.I. for the reorganization of the Scientific Departments can be taken into account.

Resolution 1.—We feel that it is unnecessary to call a special meeting of the R.A.C. to make up the budget for 1931-32 until Mr. Taylor's arrival and the result of the proposed amalgamation of the Scientific Departments is known. The question of a reduced subscribing a creage does not arise until the following year.

Resolution 2.—It is our opinion that an immediate meeting of Rubber Interests will serve no useful purpose but if your Association desire to press the matter we do not wish to raise objections but would suggest that the Meeting would be of greater service if held in the early part of 1931, preceding the U.P.A.S.I. Budget Meeting, by that time the R.A.C. will have considered the estimates with Mr. Taylor and will have concrete proposals to put forward.

We consider that Cochin or Kottayam would be the most suitable place for a Meeting of Rubber Interests.

Your faithfully,

(Sd.) W. F. CAMPBELL,
Hon. Secretary.

The Mundakayam Association's second letter dated December 29, 1930 containing further proposals was read and after discussion the following resolution was carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Walmsley and seconded by Mr. Murray 'That no useful purposes will be served by sending a special delegation to meet the Executive Committee at considerable expense before the Special Meeting is held in Cochin, when the question of economies and the future of the Rubber Scientific Department be thoroughly discussed.'

5. Proposed Special General Meeting of Rubber Interests.—Proposed by Mr. Fitchett and seconded by Mr. Walmsley that this Association recommends that the Chairman of the R.A.C. call the proposed Special General Meeting of Rubber Interests for Saturday February 7, 1931 at 10 a.m. at Cochin and that all concerns interested in the Rubber Industry and the Chairman of the U.P.A.S.I. be requested to attend.

Carried unanimously.

6. Upasi Expenditure for 1931-32.—Proposed by Mr. Champion and seconded by Mr. Campbell and unanimously agreed to 'that the subject of U.P.A.S.I. expenditure be left over for discussion at the proposed Special General Meeting of Rubber Interests to be held in Cochin.'

7. Correspondence—Letter from S. I. Association.—A letter from the South Indian Association dated October 9, 1930 was read and recorded.

Other correspondence was laid on the table.

8. Roads and Communications.—The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the District Traffic Superintendent to enquire if anything could be done to avoid the inordinate delays frequently experienced at the level-crossing at Shoranur Junction.

9. Drawback of Duty on Tea and Rubber Chests.—Read letter dated December 23, 1930 from the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, enclosing copy of their letter to the Collector of Customs, Madras, with regard to the new regulations relating to the drawback of duty on tea and rubber chests.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Upasi with the request that the matter be taken up vigorously and without delay, with the Collector of Customs, Madras.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and the Malabar Club for the use of the room, the meeting terminated.

(Sd.) J. T. MURRAY,
Chairman.

(Sd.) W. F. CAMPBELL,
Hon. Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE

Legislation and Tea Income-tax

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

Sir,

I have seen and heard it argued more than once by delegates from Mundakayam that legislation passed by the Madras and Delhi Councils does not influence the views and legislation of Native States, this view being advanced as one reason for discontinuing their financial support of the Political Department of the U.P.A.S.I.

It is therefore interesting to read on page 670 of your issue of November 22 that the Executive of the Travancore Combined Planters' Association (*note*, not the High Range only, nor Peermade, but the Combined Planters' Association which includes Mundakayam) have asked the Travancore Government to FOLLOW THE BRITISH INDIA SYSTEM of taxation in respect of Tea income-tax.

That the scale of Tea income-tax in British India is not higher than the figure at which it now stands, is due in no small measure to the strenuous opposition made by the Upasi to the proposals of the Government of India in 1926-27: so clearly if Travancore now copies the British India system not only will the Travancore planter have scored through the Upasi's

political action, but the influence of British India legislation upon Native State legislation will be equally evident; and the Mundakayam theory, on this action of its own representatives, be even more untenable than before.

Yours, etc.
C.

U.P.A.S.I. Staff Salaries

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

SIR,

I am given to understand that, owing to pressure by certain coast firms and agitation by Mr. J. R. Vincent and others, a large reduction in the salaries of Upasi employees has been proposed and may be brought into force this month.

May I suggest that the parties responsible for this move justify their action by the firms concerned stating in your columns the extent to which on their part they have reduced their estate agency and secretarial fees, and by Mr. Vincent publishing full details of his income for say the last ten years for comparison by your readers with the salaries paid their own Upasi employees over a similar period.

In spite of present conditions I doubt whether anything like 51 per cent of planters have had their salaries reduced, and until they do I can see no justification for their reducing the salaries of Upasi employees. Even allowing for restriction there is no need for low grown tea to work at a loss if it rationalizes its organization, while medium and high tea is making profits which many industries would not despise in normal times; but the agitation to reduce Labour Department employees' pay comes from Rubber planters who have always maintained that they do not use the Department and firms whose principle is all take and no give.

Yours etc.,
C. COLE.

January 5, 1931.

What a Hope!

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

SIR,

Your recent extracts from various journals designed to cheer the drooping spirits of coffee planters are deserving of all praise. But they are easily surpassed by the following culled from the pages of the *Grocer and Register* (The Publishing Co. of Ohio, Mass., post free 5 cents).

'Salvaging the Coffee Industry. A new product.—In Java, D.E.I., the chemists are at work on a new product based on the affinities of teaine and caffeine. The idea is, when coffee trees threaten a total or partial failure of blossom, to prune them severely in May, thus producing by September a heavy flush of new growth. This is plucked and treated in exactly the same way as tea. The resulting product, by the absence of tannin eliminates the deleterious effects of tea, but combines its temporary refreshing effects with the delicious taste and lasting stamina and vigour imparted by the best Mysore coffee. The pruning and rest given to the trees cause them to bear a berry crop (of berries this time) the following year and so on, *ad nauseam*. The word toffee having already been appropriated, it is proposed to call this new product Kea'.

Yours, etc.
L. N.

January 8, 1931.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending Dec. 11, 1930	January 1 to Dec. 11, 1930	January 1 to Dec. 11, 1929
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, December 11, 1930)			N. India.	s. d. 1 2·00	s. d. 1 2·70	s. d. 1 3·80
(a) Anamallais—			S. India.	a 1 3·02	b 1 2·51	c 1 3·39
Mukottu Mudi	215	1 7½	Ceylon...	1 6·95	1 6·61	1 7·02
Nalla Mudi	218	1 4½	Java ...	0 11·10	0 10·21	1 0·09
Sholayar	93	1 2½	Sumatra.	0 11·87	0 11·22	1 1·72
*Kallyar	107	1 2½	Nyassa-land	0 10·25	0 9·40	1 0·29
*Eeeteear	94	1 2½	Total...	d 1 2·84	e 1 3·23	f 1 4·29
Stanmore	193	1 2				
(b) Central Travancore—						
Tunga Mullay	60	1 5½				
Mount	83	1 5				
Thengakhal	92	1 3½				
Pasumally	81	1 3½				
Cheenthalaar	123	1 3½				
Glenmary	92	1 3½				
(c) Coorg—						
Glen Lorna	234	1 0½				
(d) Kanan Devans—						
*Grahamsland	97	1 5½				
*Periavurrai	351	1 4½				
Sevenmallay	40	1 4½				
Talliar	95	1 4½				
*Letchmi	141	1 3½				
Kalaar	106	1 2½				
(e) Nilgiris—						
Glen Morgan	89	1 2				
(f) Nilgiri-Wynaad—						
Wentworth	76	1 3				
(g) South Travancore—						
Ani Erangel	240	1 4½				
(h) Wynaad—						
Perengodda	87	1 1				
Achior	80	1 0½				

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below —

a 3,783 b 3,77,089 c 343,354

d 74,581 e 3,887,877 f 3,902,582

(B) COFFEE.—

SPECIAL CABLE

LONDON 'A' QUALITY

JANUARY 14, 1931, 105 s. MARKET EASY

(C) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, January 13, 1931 was 4½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, January 10, 1931, were 78, 761 tons, an increase of 719 tons on January 3, 1931 inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, January 10, 1931, were 41, 814 tons, an increase of 298 tons on January 3, 1931 inventory.

*Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

II. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association on December 23, 1930)

TEA.—BLACK TEA.—At the sale of the 16th instant 30,404 pkgs. — lbs. 2,703,364 were offered. The average for complete Invoice was Cts. 68 as compared with Cts. 67 for the previous sale and Cts. 63 for the corresponding sale last year. THE AVERAGE of total offerings was Cts. 66 as compared with Cts. 66 for the previous sale and Cts. 59 for the corresponding sale last year. 1930.—This year's sales which opened with an Average of Cts. 68 closed at Cts. 66. The highest weekly average during this period was Cts. 90 at the lowest Cts. 66 while the average for the year worked out at Cts. 75 as compared with 81 Cts. for 1929.

South Indian Teas in Auction of December 16, 1930, obtained the following prices :—

Estates					Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai	...	...	...	...	11,062	85
Devabettia	...	...	...	...	6,020	81
Sothuparai	...	...	...	...	15,578	75

RUBBER.—About 231 tons were offered at the Auction held on December 18, 1930. There was a moderate and less general demand with a smaller proportion of Standard grades offering and a lower level of prices. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold throughout at 18½ cents with a few stand out lots at 19 cents showing a drop of 2 cents on previous prices. All other grades of Sheet were fairly well supported and showed a similar drop. Contract Crepe opened at 18 cents but later in the Sale a few lots realised 18½ cents showing a decline of 1½ cents on last week's rates. Off Crepe was a very fair market but showed a similar decline while Mottled Brown sorts were one cent easier. There was an easier market for all grades of Scrap Crepe, Good No. 1 was 2½ cents down and inferior sorts 1½-2 cents down, while tacky sorts were neglected and difficult of sale. Good Scraps were easier while other grades were about steady.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

December 28, 1930 to January 10, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	80·99	80·99	24. Coonoor	0·35	44·81	45·16
2. Kalthuritty.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri	0·38	62·75	63·13
3. Kallar Bdge.	0·92	150·90	151·82	26. Ootacamund.	0·07	56·83	56·90
4. Koney ...	0·29	123·11	123·40	27. Yercaud	0·27	64·73	65·00
5. Pattanapura.	0·79	107·79	111·58	28. Mango Range	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam ...	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	0·03	75·65	75·68
7. Peermade ...	0·02	198·51	198·53	31. CALICUR	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford ...	...	241·09	241·09	32. Kuttiyadi	0·06	131·80	131·86
9. V'periyar ...	0·11	95·69	95·80	33. Vayitri	...	155·15	155·15
10. Kalaar ...	0·15	219·66	219·81	34. Manantoddi.	...	102·38	102·38
11. Chittuvurrai	0·35	53·86	54·21	35. Billigiris	0·04	83·58	83·62
12. Bod'i KANUR	...	26·67	26·67	36. Sidapur	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN	...	113·56	113·56	37. Pollibetta	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply ...	0·16	140·09	140·25	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	...	122·02	122·02	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	0·05	187·11	187·16	40. Kadamanie	...	230·07	230·07
17. POLLACHIE	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonnur...	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara ...	...	153·85	153·85	43. Merthisubgey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode..	1·20	127·25	128·45	44. Kelagur	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur ...	0·06	98·43	98·49	45. Durgadbettia.	...	101·99	101·99
22. Naduvattam ...	...	125·73	125·73	46. MANGALORE	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	0·82	122·14	122·96	47. MADRAS	0·03	68·68	68·71

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 3]

January 31, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE article which is published on page 44 of this issue will doubtless cause many Indian Tea Planters to protest against the suggestion made that, whilst other producing countries are forging ahead, India alone is standing still.

But the fact remains that Java, although producing tea under less favourable conditions than exist in India, is now able to compete seriously with Indian producers. Such was not the case ten years ago and it is obvious that Java, by improving her methods of cultivation, has made tremendous progress.

The Indian tea planter has always led the way; and enjoying finer natural conditions for the production of good tea than exist in any other part of the world, there is no reason why he should not continue to do so, but to maintain that position, a certain amount of re-organisation of his methods on practical lines is necessary.

During the past year a certain amount of cloud has hung over the tea market, causing the necessity for restriction of output, yet taking into account the difficulties that have been encountered generally, producers of medium class tea have come through quite well. It is a hopeful sign for 1931, if the Association of Tea Planters in the Dutch East Indies agree to co-operate with the Indian and Ceylon Planters in continuing the restriction of tea production this year on the same basis as in 1930, as there is every reason to believe they will.

THE Coffee industry of India is confined to South India comprising the Madras Presidency, Coorg and the States of Mysore, Travancore and Cochin. Statistics are now available, issued by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, and have been based on data furnished by coffee Planters, but are incomplete to the extent that states or plantations of a smaller area than 10 acres have been excluded from these tables.

It is interesting to note however that the area actually under coffee for the year under review shows an increase of nearly 3,000 acres as compared with 1928-29. Of the total area under coffee during 1929-30, Mysore accounted for 53 per cent, Madras and Coorg 23 per cent each and Cochin and Travancore together 1 per cent.

The principal destinations of Indian Coffee were as usual, the United Kingdom and France.

Some producers state they rely increasingly for their sales on the local Indian markets and less and less on the export trade. Better prices, it is stated, are to be obtained at home than abroad and to some extent this explains the shrinkage in India's exports to foreign countries.

At the same time, special efforts should be made to retain existing markets abroad, and with this object in view the Coffee Campaign Board has been instituted whose proposals are now being considered, the idea being to launch a campaign to persuade the world to drink more coffee, the results of which, if, successful would not only increase consumption but also the demand for Indian no less than for other grades.

Indian coffee is largely used for the purpose of blending with foreign coffees in order to impart to them a superior flavour. Consequently very little of Mysore or Coorg coffee is retailed as such in the United Kingdom, thus depriving the British public of exercising their undoubted preference for Empire over foreign coffees.

Kenya coffee is retailed under its own name and thus gains the advantage of the movement in favour of Empire products and it is not unreasonable to assume that Indian coffee would benefit similarly, were it retailed as ' Indian ' or ' Empire '.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

RUBBER COMPANIES

All those interested in the rubber industry will welcome the 1930 edition of *Rubber Producing Companies*. The volume is produced on the same lines as in previous years, giving full details of some six hundred rubber companies, including those with tea and coffee interests. This book, which is the most up-to-date and comprehensive work of rubber companies on the market, is compiled by the Mincing Lane Tea and Rubber Share Brokers' Association, and published by *The Financial Times* at 7s. 6d. net, post free 8s. In the preface, which reviews the present position of rubber, the bogey of rubber stocks is dispelled. The stock figure published every week is reasonably assumed by the majority of investors to be unsold rubber, but such is not the case. The plantation companies, as a whole, are not selling their rubber forward at the present low level of prices, and when buyers require rubber for delivery during, say, the latter half of 1931, the price paid is regulated by the figure at which the financier can buy ' spot ' rubber and carry it until buyers require it. The difference in price gives the financier 8 to 10 per cent. on his money. It is estimated that quite 60 per cent. of the stock figure has been dealt with in this way, and although they appear in the warehouses as being available for immediate consumption, they are not, in fact, so available until well into 1931, when they will be absorbed and the stock figure consequently reduced.

Added to the recent reduction in output adopted by most companies, there is likely to be little surplus rubber available.

THE BEST TEA OF ALL

After drinking tea in more than a dozen countries, each of which had its own particular way of making it, Mr. H. Arthur confesses that English-made tea is the best, but his judgment is biased, he adds, because he is an Englishman. Describing the various ways of brewing tea in the *Evening News*, he writes:—‘In many parts of China the leaf is only one of the ingredients for making tea. Salt, rancid butter, vinegar, and salad oil do not, in my humble opinion, add to the charm of the beverage. But no visitor must refuse it; that would be a gross breach of etiquette. Bokhara is a great place for tea. But if you think of running off to Bokhara to open a teashop—don’t! For all the natives carry their own tea about with them in little bags, and when needing a drink they go to the nearest shop for hot water. When the tea is brewed, bread is crumbled into it, and a generous lump of mutton fat is added. This may succeed in imparting ‘body,’ but the result is apt to be unpleasing to an English palate. But the Bokharan, having finished drinking, scoops from the bottom a sodden mass of bread-crumb, tea-leaves, and mutton fat, and eats it with considerable relish. In Southern Russia, tea is made by putting a ‘wedge’ of tea in a pot and adding curdled goats’ milk, eggs, and vinegar. The whole is slowly brought to the boil, and then poured into peculiar little flat dishes. It is considered a very great honour for this brew to be offered to a casual visitor. In New York, queer methods of making tea are being introduced: it is now served with a dash of one or other variety of liqueur, spirit, or fruit flavouring. . . . Still, I prefer a freshly-made cup, with milk and two lumps please!—*Home and Colonial Mail*.

* * * *

BRITAIN'S TYRE TRADE GROWING

A remarkable fact has come to light. Great Britain has exported more tyres, by 37 per cent. for the first 6 months of 1930, than for a similar period last year. Every other country except Germany exported a lesser number. It is very gratifying to learn that Great Britain has increased her exports to such an extent, and it looks as if she will continue to increase her proportion of this trade.

The estimate of rubber consumption for November in America is now 27,000 tons—the same as was consumed in October. It is said that the blanket crepe trade has dropped off considerably and that smoked sheet is being bought in its place. This should make ‘near’ positions firmer. It is thought by Singapore that purchases of April–June, July–September positions would prove profitable. According to this, Singapore must think that the bottom has been reached in the raw rubber market.

—Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal.

* * * *

MORE TEA TO RUSSIA

Discussing the slump in the prices obtained for India's exports, particularly during the latter part of last year, Mr. Lindsay, the Indian Trade Commissioner, says the real cause appears to be a lack of co-ordination between producing and consuming markets, and particularly

between the agricultural industry and the other great industries which consume agricultural products. Control of output is possible in the case of plantation products such as tea, coffee, or rubber. The need for organisation is everywhere felt for the avoidance of unnecessary stocks, for the reduction of waste, for the most economic methods of production and distribution. A wide disparity exists in many markets between the prices offered for superior and inferior grades of the same commodity. One of the remedies suggested for the prevailing depression in the tea industry is an effort to recapture the Russian market, which in pre-war days bought 180,000,000 lb. of tea annually from India. Last season, during the period April 1, to September 30, the exports of Indian tea from Calcutta, Chittagong, and Bombay were only 1,698,591 lb., but from figures compiled by the Indian Tea Association (London), a considerable increase was made during the same period this season, when 5,527,810 lb. were exported to Russia.

— : o : —

INDIAN TEA IN INDIA : TEA CESS PROPAGANDA IN SOUTHERN INDIA

We publish below a letter addressed to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I. from Mr. J. S. B. Wallace, Active Member for tea, which, we are sure, will prove of general interest to readers of the Planters' Chronicle.

THE SECRETARY,
U.P.A.S.I., P.B. 155, MADRAS.

DEAR SIR,

I was recently requested to take up this question with the Indian Tea Cess Committee and to ask whether that Committee was prepared to give the names of firms anxious to purchase good tea for local sale. I was also asked to enquire whether the Committee could recommend reliable firms ready to purchase tea fluff under a guarantee that it would be used for chemical purposes only.

In reply to the first question, the Acting Commissioner for India, Indian Tea Cess Committee, writes as follows :—

'I now have pleasure in advising you that on application to this office by members of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, for the names of stockers who deal in good sound tea, I will instruct my Superintendent in charge of Bazaar work in Southern India to furnish direct the names of stockers of good sound tea in the towns in which he is working.'

It will, of course, be understood that any information given will be in confidence and entirely without responsibility on the part of the Indian Tea Cess Committee or any of its officers'.

In reply to question No. 2, the Secretary of the Indian Tea Cess Committee informs me that Messrs. Balmer Lawrie & Co., Ltd., Calcutta, can be relied on for this purpose.

The Secretary further advises me that the policy of the Cess Committee in regard to local growers in Assam has all along been to encourage dealers to place their orders with local growers and that the Executive Committee

considers that local growers in South India should be similarly supported, and the Agent of the Indian Tea Cess Committee will therefore be instructed to recommend dealers to place their orders with local growers whenever supplies are available.

As the above information will probably interest a good many more than the few who have written me on the subject, I would suggest that you publish this information in the *Planters' Chronicle*.

THE KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE
Co., LTD.,
MUNNAR, TRAVANCORE,
January 26, 1931.

Yours etc.
J. S. B. WALLACE.

CONSUMPTION OF RUBBER

A Calcutta view of the position of rubber comes from Messrs. Place, Siddons and Gough, who point out that it is necessary to remember that the short history of the rubber-growing industry shows regular cycles of boom and slump. The booms have always been followed by long periods of depression before revivals have set in, and the resultant rises have invariably been sharp and relatively short-lived. This note is in no way an attempt to encourage the belief that the present slump is likely to turn suddenly into a period of prosperity. The present slump is merely part of a greater world-wide slump, and for this reason recovery, when it comes, may be a gradual and irregular process. There is reason to expect that in the course of the next twelve months or so the world will recover, and with a return to more normal conditions, the consumption of rubber must inevitably increase. There seems, therefore, justification for looking upon the present situation as temporary, holding within itself, as it does, the factors which must inevitably restore equilibrium between supply and demand. It was at one time held that consumption of rubber was increasing so much more rapidly than production that by 1932 the world would be faced with a shortage. Events have destroyed the basis of this view, but if, as a result of the present crisis, a proportion of uneconomic producers is forced out of the industry—even temporarily—a shortage in the near future seems by no means outside the bounds of possibility. Messrs. Place, Siddons and Gough do not attempt to forecast whether rubber stocks are likely to increase materially before the 'tide turns,' or whether the price of the commodity is likely to fall much lower, but at 4½d. per pound, which is certainly below the all-in cost of all but the most favourably situated producers, it would seem that there is not much room for a further fall. As for stocks, the prospects of a material reduction in these depend, perhaps, to an equal extent upon a recovery of world trade as upon curtailment of production. One of the first results of a revival of world trade must be the stimulation of any industry engaged in the transport of goods. This covers the motor transport industry, which is based upon the use of rubber tyres. An expansion of road transport must consequently react favourably upon the motor industry, and indirectly upon the rubber plantation industry. Moreover, while the immediate outlook seems dismal, it should be remembered that the low price of rubber is in reality an important bull factor. With rubber at around 4½d. a pound it must be finding many new uses which were formerly impracticable, and when the 'turn' comes, this may prove to be a matter of unsuspected importance.

A SHORT REVIEW OF THE TEA INDUSTRY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO NORTHERN INDIA

by

By F. W. BLENNERHASSETT

No doubt most of our readers are aware that the tea industry is a very old one. It appears to have had its origin in China, and an old Chinese manuscript of about 2700 B.C. bears reference to it.

Tea, however, did not become popular as a beverage in that country until about the year 550 A.D., being used until that date entirely as a medicine for both healing and warding off disease. Tea was first introduced into England as a beverage in the year 1645, though it arrived in Holland a good deal earlier. It was sold in liquid form, the practice being for the vendor to brew the liquid from the leaves and draw it off as required by the customer, who warmed it up for use. By the year 1660 tea had gained some measure of popularity, and in that year a tax of 8d. per gallon was imposed.

As may be imagined, the early methods of the manufacture of tea in China were very primitive. It appears to have been the custom to 'roast' the leaves over a slow fire in an open pan until they became thoroughly pliable. They were then rolled by hand, after which they were spread out to cool and discharge their moisture. All this was done on the same day as the leaf was plucked. When treated as above described, the tea was packed, ready for human consumption, and a truly delicious beverage was no doubt the result!

FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF INDIAN TEA

In 1834, after careful investigations, tea plants and seeds were imported from China to Northern India, and the great India tea industry was commenced. The first consignment of Indian tea arrived in London in 1837, but it does not appear to have occasioned any marked national rejoicings.

In about 1870, following on the disaster which befell the coffee industry in Ceylon, tea was planted, and the early days of the industry on that island were full of bitter disappointments and dashed hopes. Perseverance and determination were, however, rewarded; and, as we know, Ceylon is now producing tea which is second to none, and has under cultivation a matter of about 443,000 acres.

Southern India, too, is producing some excellent teas, and the story of her progress is very much like Ceylon's.

COMPETITION FROM JAVA

The tea industry of Java was started as early as 1827, when seed was imported from Japan, and afterwards from China. The industry was originally subsidised by the Dutch Government, and although soil, climatic, and labour conditions were all favourable, early results were disappointing, and the tea produced was of poor quality. It had no appearance, and the liquors were bitter. However, the project was not abandoned, and scientific research, grit, and determination triumphed. Though perhaps Java to-day is not producing tea which is as good as Indian or Ceylon tea, a reference to the Tea Sales Reports of, say, December, 1920, and December, 1930, will tell its own tale. *Java is not standing still.*

Sumatra joined the happy throng in the year 1910, and is coming along very nicely, thank you.

Nyasaland, where tea was first planted in 1906 to-day has gotten on for 7,000 acres under cultivation. Her quality is steadily though surely

improving, and we may expect further development of the industry in that Protectorate.

Natal and Kenya are also on the market, and though results in both these countries are so far not all they might be, that is not to say they will not improve.

Japan, too, is a large producer of a tea, and has at present about 220,000 acres of tea under cultivation. Here, as in China, the tea industry is a very old one, dating back to about the ninth century. Though no great advances have been made in Japan, there are many indications that Japan is waking up to the position, and there is good reason to suppose that great improvements will shortly be made there.

INDIA LED THE WAY

To the Indian planter belongs the idea of planting the tea garden, as we understand it, for in China, it was, as it is now, a village industry. To the Indian planter, too, belongs the distinction of manufacturing tea by machine. He, too, was the pioneer of 'black' tea, for until he took charge, 'black' tea was unknown. In fact, there is no single branch of the tea industry which does not owe its present state of development to the Indian planter, for if progress has been made, then it is because the Indian planter 'forced the pace,' and if, as has happened in China, the industry in a country stood still or went back, then it was because his pace was too good for the other runners. The Indian planter, in a word, was a very fine fellow, for, in spite of the tremendous hardships he had to endure, not forgetting malaria, cholera, and a thousand and one other things, he founded an industry of which he and his descendants may be very proud.

CULTIVATION METHODS

The actual cultivation methods have steadily progressed, and though the standard of work, i.e., 'deep' hoeing, etc., has, according to some, fallen off, outturn per acre has steadily gone up. The old type of Indian planter was a very firm believer in what he called 'tincture of steel,' and any morning in the 'deep' hoeing season would see him walking through the tea, exhorting all and sundry, from the assistant downwards, to *lal mutti deklau*. Those days have gone for ever, and though lime, green-crops, and 'tincture of steel' appeared to solve most of our old friend's difficulties whilst he was here on earth, the old order has given place to the new.

Manuring, hoeing, pruning, spraying, and plucking, are fast becoming exact sciences; and thanks to the excellent work which has been done, and is still being done by the Scientific Department, there are not very many questions on any of these matters which cannot be answered by referring to one of their numerous publications.

Mechanical cultivation will soon be an established fact, and not a dream. Though at present no machine on the market will do what is required, it should be remembered that if George Stephenson were called from the bosom of his fathers, he would have an awful job to recognise his invention in the form of a present-day locomotive.

In spite of all this, however, it would be a very brave man who would say that the tea industry in Northern India is in a really flourishing state.

There are, unfortunately, signs that, whatever has happened in the past, the industry is not very progressive in the present, and whilst other countries are going ahead, Northern India is not holding her place at the head of the procession, which by very virtue of her natural advantages, if by nothing else, she should be able to do.

Has not the time arrived for us to forge ahead and strive by any means to regain our position well at the head of the field?

—Reprinted from the *Home and Colonial Mail*, dated Jany. 1, 1931.

CEYLON TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

We have received the programme published below of the above Conference and the Director of the Tea Research Institute has asked us to intimate that any South Indian Planters who may wish to attend will be very welcome.

To facilitate making their arrangements, will any U. P. A. S. I. members proposing to attend, notify the *Tea Research Institute of Ceylon, St. Coombs, Talawakelle, Ceylon* direct.

TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF CEYLON

Second Conference

FEBRUARY 26TH AND 27TH, 1931

PROGRAMME OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 26th February

MORNING

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 10 a.m. | Official Opening of the New Laboratories. |
| 10.30—12 a.m. | Inspection of Laboratories, Laboratory Demonstrations. |

LUNCH

AFTERNOON

Chairman : Mr. A. G. Baynham, M.C., B.A., Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

1.30—4.15 p.m. The following Papers will be given :—

- (a) "Review of the Institute's Programme"—Dr. Roland V. Norris, D.Sc., F.I.C., Director.
- (b) "Cultivation and Soil Amelioration"—Mr. T. Eden, M.Sc., A.I.C., Agricultural Chemist.
- (c) "Control of Insect Pests"—Mr. C. B. Redman King, M.A., Entomologist.

Friday, 27th February

MORNING

Chairman : The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, Chairman, Low-Country Products Association.

9—10.45 a.m. Papers and discussion on Pruning.

- (a) "Physiological Aspects of Pruning"—Mr. F. R. Tubbs, M.Sc., D.I.C., A.R.C.S., Plant Physiologist.
- (b) "Pruning in relation to Disease"—Dr. C. H. Gadd, D.Sc., Mycologist.

10.45—12.30 p.m. Papers and discussion on Tea Manufacture.

- "Factors concerned in the process of Tea Manufacture—A discussion of their effect and methods of investigation."—
"Dr. D. I. Evans, Ph. D., B.Sc."

12.45 p.m.

LUNCH

AFTERNOON

2—4 p.m. Inspection of Factory, Field Experiments, Estate.

4.30 p.m.

TEA

TEA RESTRICTION CONTINUES

(Colombo, Friday, January 16.)

News of the acceptance of the Dutch restriction plans by the British is reassuring, but the modification of the scheme which only made that acceptance possible is the source of some disappointment. The British strongly pressed for the scheme to be maintained on the same scale as last year, namely 15 per cent., while the Dutch proposals were on a 12 per cent. basis. Apart from this difference the Hollanders pressed strongly for the exclusion of bought leaf, while British interests were equally insistent that bought leaf should be included. In these circumstances, a breakdown in the negotiations was always possible and it was hardly to be expected that the British would accept the Dutch offer without a further protracted period of bargaining. The difficulty, however, has been got over, as we suggested it might, by paring down the British percentage so that both parties to the restriction agreement will work on the same conditions. It is to be regretted that the 1931 curtailment of supplies will not be so great as in 1930. Apart from the lowering of the percentage, increased yields will be forthcoming from new areas. This aspect of the question has particular reference to the Dutch East Indies, where, even with restriction in operation, there will be an increase in 1931, allowing for young tea, of nearly 12 million pounds over the 1929 crop. However, restriction will achieve this much—it will reduce the anticipated free crop of 195 million pounds from the Dutch East Indies by about 17 million pounds. The suggestion had been put forward tentatively that the British, in view of the urgent need for improving the stock position, might consent to a 15 per cent. restriction, even although the Dutch were only willing to apply the 12 per cent. basis, but we are glad that the decision makes it clear that the British will forego no more than the Dutch. In regard to bought leaf, sympathies must be with the Dutch point of view, as native tea is not restrictable, and the inclusion of bought leaf would have meant merely the transfer of this trade entirely to the hands of the Chinese and Arab buyers. The exclusion of bought leaf will, therefore, enable estates to maintain some control over native production and the quality of the leaf. All these points connected with the special difficulties of production in the Dutch East Indies might have been conceded, but the reduction of the Dutch percentage by three per cent., although it involved only 4½ million pounds of tea, was an important matter of principle, and it would have been extreme folly to have allowed the Dutch more favourable terms. The plan which has been provisionally accepted by the Ceylon and Indian Associations in London is not as rigorous as might have been hoped for in view of the serious statistical position, but it is infinitely better than the complete lapse of the scheme.—*The Times of Ceylon.*

C.E.P.A. AND RESTRICTION

MEETING IN FAVOUR OF REVISED CONDITIONS

At the meeting of the C.E.P.A., at the G.O.H. to-day, those present decided to support the scheme of tea restriction contained in the cable from London published yesterday, and forms of assent are to be sent out to the members of the Association next week.

To-day we'll do the great and perfect round
 We said, the morning broke so pure and clear
 And not a single cloud was in the sky,
 So warm, so fresh, so sweet, so calm, so dry.

The first a perfect drive, a chip, then in
 The fourth it was you took your magic iron
 And lifted clean from burn edge to the pin
 It's Heaven this we said, let who will, win.

But at the ninth I sliced into the blue
 And he, my friend, proceeded so to do
 Then ' Folkestone lassies', fleecy clouds as warm
 Sure sign of wind and rain, and then the storm.

Then sodden through we ploughed the ruddy sod
 Invoking now the devils, now the g—d.
 You nearly broke your driver I my heart
 Sure, bridge and whisky is the better part.

At length the sun revived and soothed our gall
 Improved our play but then instead of ball
 Your eye was on a 'braw wee lassie'
 It cost you 8, 2 extra mashies.

And so, all hope of records gone and nerves at rest
 We settled down to play our steady best
 And finished well enough, though nothing great
 2 fours, a five, and three, though much too late.

And then, old friend we passed ' crossed the bar '
 And quaffed and chaffed in soft and kindly mood
 Those others hardly battling on the heath
 Epitome of life, of life—and death ?

L. N.

BRIDGE

' I was ever thus ' he cried, as on his queen finessed the king fell
 plump
 Another lead—his ace was promptly trumped.
 ' This is a far, far, better thing than ever yet '
 He said and led a guarded king—there was a heavy bet—
 But trumps being out, the enemy played ace,
 Then queen, knave, ten and nine—to see his face
 But more his partner's look forlorn
 They slew him quietly in the icy dawn
 'T was better thus.

L. N.

BOOKS

Annual Report 1929. Department of Agriculture, Kenya

This book, which has recently come to hand, contains many points of interest to the coffee planter in India.

We are informed that the total area under coffee in Kenya increased during the year 1929 by 6,132 acres making a grand total of 90,205 acres. The crop which owing to unfavourable weather conditions was a poor one amounted to 7,294 tons of coffee valued at £785,171. The estimate for 1929-30 crop amounted to 9,908 tons.

The very thorough investigations regarding mealy bug continue, and it has always been a matter of surprise to us that coffee planters in Southern India have taken so little interest in the work that has been done in Kenya in this connection, for the methods of prevention, advocated by the Coffee scientific officers there, would seem to be equally applicable to the pest in this country.

As regards Stephanoderes Hampei, it is interesting to note that—' No case has been recorded of stephanoderes attacking green, ripening or ripe berries. In all cases damage had been done to what is known locally as *buni* coffee. By *buni* is meant dry coffee, which has not been pulped and fermented.'

Below we give an interesting extract from the report on Coffee Fermentation.

The area under Tea at July 31, 1929 was 5,593 acres. The industry is chiefly in the hands of big companies having ample financial resources and experience.

H. W.

COFFEE FERMENTATION

It has previously been recorded that the fermentation of coffee, i.e. the removal of the slimy ' saccharine matter ' from the parchment of hulled coffee, is due not to the action of bacteria or yeasts, but to an enzyme or ferment in the saccharine matter itself. The nature of the action is such that if one of the products is removed, the rate of change does not decrease. A sugar is produced during the breakdown of the saccharine matter ; the removal of this is simple, but products innocuous to the coffee must be produced. Yeast is the most obvious means. A special strain of yeast was developed and found to assist, considerably shortening the time of fermentation and at the same time improving the quality of the liquor.

Apparently this was an end of the matter, but difficulty was experienced in maintaining a strong growth of the yeast. As far as the laboratory was concerned, fermentation with yeast was most successful, but practically there were many difficulties. Several alternatives were considered, but finally it was decided to try the bacteria naturally occurring in fermenting coffee. From the first small lot of coffee ripening in the fly picking of July this year, the species of bacteria predominating was isolated by Mr. Daubney of the Veterinary Research Laboratory.

This bacterium was tested in experimental fermentations at the Scott Laboratory. A considerable saving in the period of fermentation was found ; in some cases this was as much as fifty per cent, but the average lay about 33 per cent. The fermented coffee when ready had a cleaner, sweeter smell than the normally fermented coffee. By following the temperature changes it was found that, in the inoculated lot, the action was such as would be produced by one group of bacteria, while, in the normal fermentation, there were several successive bacterial actions. Also, after the mucilage had been removed from the coffee, bacterial action practically ceased when the special strain had been used, but under ordinary conditions bacterial action continued, during which the mass often soured.

Four small samples from the experimental fermentations were sent to Messrs. J. K. Gilliat and Co. They reported a slight improvement in flavour in the inoculated fermented over the normally fermented coffee in the case of both correctly fermented and over-fermented coffee. From this one may conclude that the products of this bacterial action have no ill effect upon the flavour of coffee.

This method of fermenting coffee, namely the use of a specific organism in sufficient quantity to swamp any chance infection, has manifest advantages. The quality of the coffee may be improved ; it will most certainly not be diminished ; there is a considerable saving of time ; in some cases of more than 50 per cent. In one case recorded, the coffee after inoculation was clean after fifteen hours, while a parallel fermentation under normal conditions required thirty-four hours. The value of this considerable acceleration in times of rush is evident.

A simple means of preparing inoculants for fermentation from tube cultures of the bacteria and of maintaining the strain during picking season has been evolved. This method has been successfully employed by a number of coffee planters throughout the Colony who, after making one or two experimental fermentations, are now using no other method.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—MYSORE DIVISION

Notices are hereby given that :

MR. M. KHALIQUE HUSSAIN, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Agent, T. Narasipur, has been dismissed from his appointment with effect from December 1, 1930 and Mr. Mir Mumtaz Ali has been appointed in his place. Mr. Mir Mumtaz Ali's address is Labour Agent, U.P.A.S.I., T. Narasipur.

MR. M. ABDUL RAHIM, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Agent, Chamrajnagar, has been dismissed from his appointment with effect from December 1, 1930 and Mr. T. Ameerullakhan has been appointed in his place. Mr. T. Ameerullakhan's address is Labour Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Chamrajnagar.

JAS. GRUNDY,

January 13, 1931.

Superintendent.

CORRESPONDENCE

Coffee

*The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

We extract, as of probable interest to you, the following paragraph from the Coffee Report dated the 12th ultimo of Messrs. Nortz & Co., New York :—

'The United States Department of Commerce publishes the following interesting figures of imports into the United States of tea and coffee :—

NET IMPORTS *per capita* (IN POUNDS)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Coffee</i>	<i>Tea</i>
1830	2.99	0.54
1840	5.04	0.99
1850	5.58	1.21
1851-60	6.78	0.76
1861-1870	4.66	0.91
1871-1880	7.19	1.32
1881-1890	8.52	1.34
1891-1895	8.61	1.34
1896-1900	10.07	1.17
1901-1905	11.65	1.18
1906-1910	10.29	1.05
1911-1915	9.65	0.99
1916-1920	11.20	1.03
1921-1925	11.67	0.83

CALICUT,
January 12, 1931.

Yours etc.,
W. K. M. Langley.

The Southern India Plantations Agency Limited

(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND)

*The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

We have pleasure in advising you that the agency business hitherto carried on at Coonoor and Cochin by the Estates & Agency Co. Ltd., will from the January 1, 1931 be carried on by The Southern India Plantations Agency, Ltd., with the undersigned as Joint Managers. The new Company has been registered in England, and the London Directors are Messrs. W. R. Arbuthnot (*Chairman*), H. D. Arbuthnot and M. A. Arbuthnot, who are all Directors of the Estates and Agency Company Limited.

The new Company will be Agents in India for :—

LONDON COMPANIES

Messrs. Arbuthnot, Latham & Co., Ltd.,
 The Estates & Agency Co., Ltd.,
 The Ceylon Land & Produce Co., Ltd.,
 The Nilgiri Plantations Co., Ltd.,
 The Jamaican & General Mortgages Investment & Trust Co., Ltd.,
 The Waterfall (Anamalais) Tea Estates Ltd.,
 The Balmadies Estates Co., Ltd.,

LOCAL COMPANIES

The Nelliampathy Hills (Cochin) Estates Co., Ltd.,
 The Devashola (Nilgiri) Tea Estates Co., Ltd.,
 The Coonoor Tea Estates Co., Ltd.,
 The Guernsey Tea Factory Co., Ltd.,

PRIVATE ESTATES

Frith Hall Estate,
 Sholur Estate,
 Highfield Estate.

We shall be obliged if you will kindly note that all communications should be addressed to the Company and not to individuals.

BELMONT,
 COONOO P.O.,
 NILGIRIS.

January 6, 1931.

We are, dear Sir,
 Yours etc.,
 J. N. SMITH.
 ST. S. CAMERON,
Joint Managers.

A Suggestion

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

SIR,

We never seem to get any Ceylon planting news in the *Chronicle*.

There are a great number of South Indian planters who started life in Ceylon, who would welcome this and who cannot afford to take in a Ceylon *Daily* as well as the *Madras Mail*, the latter giving practically no 'Local Gup' from the Island.

A few rupees fortnightly for a letter from Colombo would help some poor fellow out of a job, but if this expenditure may be questioned by the present day 'Economists', surely matters of interest could be produced from some Ceylon paper.

There is an item of news at the moment which many Tea planters in South India would be interested to have details of, and that is cause and effect of all the recent Factory fires up-country, eight in about as many months I believe, and the amount of tea lost to the market thereby etc., etc.

All that I have been able to find in my paper, has been that such and such a Factory has been burnt out, believed fully insured, then another Factory, then still another Factory has been burnt down etc., etc., but no details at all.

WOODBRIAR ESTATE,

January 24, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
 G. W. FULCHER.

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

DEAR SIR,

I. N.'s letter 'What A Hope'! has reminded me that the late Mr. R. H. Morris did actually once, on Attikan Estate, try to make 'kea' with young coffee flush. The resulting brew however was, I believe, not very palatable and the idea was abandoned!

HONNAMETTI ESTATE,
 ATTIKAN P.O.,
January 23, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
 RALPH. C. MORRIS.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING NOVEMBER, 1930

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia	
<i>Coffee—</i>										
Madras	541	...	1,428	...	...	...	41	
	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calicut	
Cochin	46	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	
Bombay	
Total	...	601	...	1,428	4,927	317	...	401	41	
Previously	...	5,592	...	60,325	44,326	939	33	...	1,848	
Total lbs. since 1-1-30.	121,278	...	6,193	...	62,253	49,253	1,256	33	1,889	
<i>Rubber—</i>										
Calicut	15,321	57,307	126,571	...	...	44,800	...	
Cochin	185,098	618,918	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	202	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	126,789	104,640	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	52,193	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	17,721	421,589	850,129	...	504	...	44,800	...	
Previously	...	285,103	5,236,161	6,763,466	80,801	500	...	134,400	9,308	
Total lbs. since 1-1-30	13,844,482	...	302,824	5,657,750	7,013,505	80,801	1,004	...	9,308	
<i>Tea—</i>										
Madras	3,894	48,467	1,017,770	400	...	3,572	...	
	21,975	42,783	1,125,754	3,075	...	15,504	700	
Calicut	48,986	5,868	...	644	...	...	...
Cochin	3,584	...	...	788	...	...	...
Mangalore	3,000	308,233	917,228	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	1,500	76,087	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	
Alleppey	
Total	...	81,439	406,851	3,136,819	4,119	788	410	19,076	700	
Previously	...	438,681	3,336,524	25,627,797	12,530	3,818	600	177,632	3,122	
Total lbs. since 1-4-30.	33,250,906	...	520,120	3,743,375	28,764,616	16,649	4,606	1,010	196,708	3,822

sorts and also commonest kinds was very inactive and a smart drop in prices was recorded. Broken Orange Pekoes and Orange Pekoes declined 2 to 4 cents while Broken Pekoes and Pekoes were 5 to 7 cents lower. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. Finest liquoring sorts were well supported, but otherwise demand was poor and prices were appreciably lower.

South Indian Teas in Auction of January 13, 1931, obtained the following prices :-

Estates				Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai	...	...	...	17,706	93
Sothuparai	...	...	...	11,978	89
Kanniamallay	...	...	...	28,842	81
Welbeck	...	...	...	3,087	79
Madnpatty	...	...	...	12,514	76
Do.	...	...	...	12,458	76
Corrimony	...	...	...	5,550	60

RUBBER.—About 394 tons were offered at the Auction held on January 15, 1931. There was an active market with good general buying and all grades were well supported. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold steadily at 18 cents throughout showing an improvement of a half cent on last week's prices. Fair and Off quality sheets met with a good demand and showed a similar improvement while other sheet was steady. Contract Crepe was a good market at 17½ cents showing a rise of a half cent on previous rates, other grades of Crepe were well competed for and improved a half cent. There was a strong enquiry for all grades of Scrap Crepe, the best sorts were half cent dearer and inferior sorts one cent dearer. The small quantity of Scrap available sold at unchanged rates.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

January 11, 1931 to January 24, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	80·99	80·99	24. Coonoor	1·26	45·16	46·42
2. Kalthurthy.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri	0·60	63·13	63·73
3. Kallar Bdge.	0·26	151·82	152·08	26. Ootacamund.	0·11	56·90	57·01
4. Koney	...	123·40	123·40	27. Yercaud	0·20	65·00	65·20
5. Pattanapura.	...	111·58	111·58	28. Range Mango	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	...	75·68	75·68
7. Peermade	...	198·53	198·53	31. CALICUT	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford	...	41·09	241·09	32. Kuttiyadu	...	131·86	131·86
9. V'periyar ..	0·05	95·80	95·83	33. Vayitri	...	155·15	155·15
10. Kalaar	0·3	19·81	220·14	34. Manantoddi.	...	102·38	102·38
11. Chittuvurrai	0·16	54·21	54·37	35. Billigiris	0·18	83·62	83·80
12. BODI'KANUR	0·09	36·67	26·76	36. Sidapur	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN	...	113·56	113·56	37. Pollibetta	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply	...	140·25	140·25	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	...	122·02	120·02	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis	0·26	187·16	187·42	40. Kadamanie	...	230·07	230·07
17. POLLACHIR	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonnur	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara	0·08	153·98	154·06	43. Merthisubghey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode..	...	128·45	128·45	44. Kelagur	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur	...	98·49	98·49	45. Durgadbettia.	...	101·99	101·99
22. Naduvattam	...	125·73	125·73	46. MANGALORE	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	0·03	122·96	122·99	47. MADRAS	0·02	68·71	68·72

F=During the Fortnight,

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 4]

February 14, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE Board of Trade Returns for the completed year of 1930 show that the decline in the value of imports of merchandise, was due, to a very considerable extent, to the fall in commodity prices which has been a marked feature of British Trade and of the trade of the world since the autumn of 1929.

British Overseas Trade in 1930. Over one half of the total decline in the value of imports during the year took place in the raw materials class.

With regard to tea, the quantity imported last year less re-exports, was 4,045,000 cwts.

According to figures compiled by the Tea Brokers' Association, the stocks of tea in warehouses at the end of the year were slightly greater than at the beginning of the year, indicating that the quantity available for home distribution was about 4,033,000 cwts. as compared with 3,724,000 cwts. the previous year.

Some time ago, in these columns, we queried whether the price of tea charged to the public at home was low enough to maintain consumption let alone encourage it, and reading the report of the Indian Trade Commissioner for 1928-29 and 1929-30, our views seem to have been confirmed, as the following passage shows :

"There is evidence that the price charged by the British grocer in retailing tea is unaffected by reductions in the wholesale price of tea. The defence given varies according to circumstances—in some quarters it is stated that the grocer makes no profit, or even makes a loss, in retailing sugar, the price of which is now at a phenomenally low level, and that he must look to other products such as tea, for the means to cover his loss on sugar."

The total imports of coffee were much in excess of the quantities imported in recent years, the bulk of the supplies being derived from Central America and British East Africa. British East Africa is increasing in importance as a source of supply of Coffee, and last year the quantity imported from that source was nearly as great as from Central America. About half the coffee received was re-exported, the bulk as usual going to Germany, while last year about one-sixth of the re-exports went to the United States.

Executive Meeting. A MEETING of the Executive Committee U.P.A.S.I. will be held at the Coimbatore Club on Monday, the 16th inst., commencing at 10 a.m.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

PUSH AND TAKE-YOUR OPPORTUNITY

We understand that the President of the American Coffee Corporation has announced that an intensive campaign is to be promoted to increase the consumption of coffee throughout the United States in order to alleviate the economic problem of Brazil as far as possible, for, it is claimed, that if Brazilian coffee growers are ruined, the U.S.A.—the world's principal coffee consumer—will be left without coffee and will only be able to buy it at exorbitant prices.

Cacao and tea 'boosters' must therefore wake up if they want to attract the attention and create the extra demand necessary to justify the expenditure on their campaigns, the cacao campaign especially, as besides the above notice it will be remembered that the delegates of Brazil, Columbia, Venezuela, Cuba and Porto Rico at the Pan-America Conference in Washington, have agreed to take combined action towards a general agreement for limiting the production and export of coffee until the effects of the present over-production cease. The Brazilian delegate recommended an agreement to stop new planting for a specified period or to limit the exports of each country on a basis in proportion with the most recent production.

Quite possibly the arrangements that lie behind both these statements are connected. Now that Brazil is trying so hard to settle down and make the most of things, it is more probable than ever that the most will be made to boost coffee whether they do the same for cacao or not. One thing is certain, if Bahia does not join in with the Gold Coast to regulate and safeguard the market and price of cacao they will miss a chance of improving matters that is not likely to come their way again.—*Tropical Life*.

INDIGO

The total area under indigo in India is estimated at 59,700 acres, which is 10 per cent. less than the area of last year. The total yield of dye is estimated at 13,500 cwts. (20,200 factory maunds), as against 14,400 cwts. (21,500 factory maunds) last year, or a decrease of 6 per cent. The cultivation of the crop is declining.

TEA IN SOUTH INDIA

Tea in Southern India writes *Commerce*, dated January 31, 1931, has a great future, but not if those concerned keep quiet and see Ceylon beat the district by 8d. per lb., writes a shareholder who, although not a tea planter, has been to most tea districts in India and Ceylon and from experience over many years, from an investment point of view, has found that money put into tea compares favourably with anything else. There is plenty of first-class tea land in the Nilgiris with good depth of soil and ample rainfall, plenty of cheap labour and more returning from Ceylon and Malaya. In Ceylon, there are larger areas of tea at about 3,000 feet on poor rocky soil, but this tea land is not only manured but kept clean and well cultivated. The agents, brokers and the Colombo market are only a few miles away and mistakes in manufacture are quickly detected. Ceylon teas are well manufactured and in the last few years many factories have been removed from hollows and rebuilt on hills or high ground where a good wither (the most essential point in making good tea) is possible and thereby increased the selling price by 3d. per lb. In the Nilgiris, many factories are badly placed and good manufacture is impossible. The leaf stews, or sometimes even grows, in some of these withering lofts. In Assam estimates one reads of 'seven rounds of light hoe and one deep hoe per annum.' Perhaps in parts of South India this is not possible or necessary, but the cultivation given is often quite nominal and badly done. Unless the soil is kept in good tilth and the moisture conserved, leaf is bound to be short in the dry weather, when quality should be good. A good Assam planter, given a fairly good factory, would show a great difference on some of the South Indian gardens in two years. Although some of the tea may be a poor *jar* yet it is marvellous the way an old bush comes away after hard pruning (perhaps the first time for three years!) in contracts with having been surrounded with bad grass and practically smothered in jungle. Much of the pruning and cultivation is done under contract—a lazy and unsatisfactory arrangement.

HOLLAND'S RUBBER CONSUMPTION.

Holland's consumption of crude rubber during the first half of 1930 shows a marked decrease as compared with that for the first half of 1929. The respective figures are 2,535 and 3,243 tons. On the other hand practically every important item in the imports of manufactured goods showed increases. For instance, automobile tyres numbered 148,406 instead of 99,963; motor-cycle tyres, 6,259 instead of 4,985; rubber foot-wear, 1,313,184 pairs instead of 932,228; and other rubber goods, 1,841 against 1,542 tons. Only tyres for other than motor vehicles fell from 657,742 to 587,857, and tubes from 697,261 to 632,992.

America had the largest share in the imports of automobile tyres, closely followed by Great Britain, which, however, supplied the largest number of tubes for these tyres. Belgium, however, seems to be getting most of Holland's orders for rubber goods and supplied more than half the other tyres and tubes, half of the rubber boots and shoes, besides a fair quantity of other rubber goods. Germany's share in the imports appear to be increasing. Her exports of automobile tyres to Holland practically

doubled, she took second place as a source of tubes for other tyres, and also of footwear, and had the largest part in the other rubber goods.

The most important exports from Holland are tyres and tubes for other than motor vehicles. These exports increased in 1930. The figures for tyres were 542,709 against 468,559, and for tubes, 564,921 against 435,502. The next important article, footwear, declined from 32,980 pairs to 29,737 pairs. Exports of automobile tyres increased from 1,934 to 3,469.

THE DANGER OF WORN TYRES.

The new rules of the road are commendably thorough in their intention to reduce the deplorable toll of life resulting from an abnormal growth of traffic on a highway system incapable of absorbing it. Only time will show, however, if the new code will furnish that measure of protection which the non-motoring public is entitled to expect. Meanwhile there is one source of danger for which no provision has been made, or, as far as we are aware, contemplated. The law has wisely ordained that the use of pneumatic tyres, with a few insignificant exceptions, shall be compulsory on all vehicles after a certain date, but no provision has been made to ensure that tyres shall be in such a condition as to limit the risk of skidding. No one who is familiar with the perils of greasy surfaces can be blind to the importance of this omission. The danger is, of course, shared by the motorist who trusts his life to tyres with the treads worn flat: still if the safety of himself and his car were alone concerned, it would be a matter between him and his insurance office. The consequences are not so restricted. Skidding is a prolific source of road fatalities and is largely the result of ineffective tyres. In these days of general impecuniosity the inducement to run tyres longer than their condition justifies is much stronger than usual, and the practice at the present time is prevalent. Moreover, it would be difficult for legislation to define at what precise point a tyre ceases to be serviceable. Nevertheless the responsibility of motorists for using defective tyres should be enforced when it can be shown that the latter were a contributory cause of an accident.—*Rubber Age*.

MORE BEER CONSUMED IN ENGLAND: £63,000,000 FROM TOBACCO TAX.—

Britons are drinking less spirits but more beer and smoking more according to the annual report of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, which records that 835,000 gallons less of spirits were cleared for the year ending March 1930, than the previous year. On the other hand, the quantity of imported beer retained for consumption rose by 18 per cent. Most of it came from the Irish Free State. The Commissioners attribute the increase of beer to clever and extensive advertising and the drop in spirits to the mild winter. The army of smokers is increasing by leaps and bounds and the popularity of cigarettes is swelling the revenues. Nearly £63,000,000 was derived from the Tobacco tax, which is £3,000,000 above the budget estimate and £4,000,000 above the previous year's receipts.

PLANTING PRODUCE

IN THE

LONDON MARKET

October, 1930 December, 1930

Messrs. Leslie and Anderson Limited, of 14, Billiter Street, London, send us the following very interesting review, dated December 31, 1930 of the London Market for planting produce during the last quarter of 1930.

COFFEE

The market for the past three months has been devoid of any special feature, if we except the important influence of the Revolution in Brazil on prices there, referred to below. The satisfactory demand for export which prevailed during August and September resulting in good clearances, merely antedated in its effect the better enquiry usually experienced here in October and November, when buyers come into the market to obtain supplies to carry them on until the arrival of the New Crops.

The offerings of all descriptions catalogued at Auctions during October were light, but since then fairly large consignments of East Africans and moderate shipments of Costa Ricas have arrived, affording a better opportunity to gauge values. Taking a general view of the situation to-day, it may be said there is an acute scarcity of good to fine qualities suitable for the Home Trade requirements, and those on offer have been sold at full prices, namely, 115/- to 135/- per cwt., whilst there has been considerable irregularity in prices for mediums, with a slow demand for poor grades.

As regards the prospects for New Crops (Milds), we are in much the same position to-day as we were at the close of 1929, when 'quality coffees' were scarce. We hope to see good competition for these when they appear in the Sales, though owing to the fall in Brazils the general basis of values may be lower than in January last.

The statistical position, it will be seen from figures below is not unfavourable. Stocks in London are much the same as at this date last year, the figures for East Indias and East Africans of the important crops alone being in excess of December, 1929.

EAST INDIAS.—The few hundred bags held by importers at the end of September have no doubt now been sold, and holders, so far as we can learn, realized about the limits for which they had been holding for the good marks, so that the stocks shewn below are coffees, we must assume, in dealers hands, probably bought *on spec* early in the season for the autumn demand, which they have been unable to clear at a profit. We continue of the opinion that if the sample of the New Crop is attractive, we shall see good competition for the coffee, and this is strengthened by reason of the limited quantity of East African coffee suitable for the Home Trade buyers that has yet appeared in Auctions. Should the general run of the New Crop be disappointing as last season, we fear the coffees must take their chance with other mediums at about 80/- to 95/- per cwt. for A's and 60 to 75 for B's. From the latest news from India, crop picking had begun earlier this season. Estimates, except in some important cases, are inclined to be reduced, with the result that we do not expect the total crop to exceed 60 per cent. of last season's yield. The market in India has been slow and sales of Plantation on *ex bags* terms have been comparatively

few, at about Rs. 50 per cwt., but the latest quotation in Mangalore is about Rs. 47 per cwt.

EAST AFRICAS.—Arrivals of New Crop have been reaching this market for some weeks, but up to date the coffee shewn in Auctions, with exceptions here and there, has been disappointing. At times bids made in the Sale Room have been declined for considerable quantities, but the coffees were subsequently sold so that little we believe has been withdrawn. It is very disappointing to the Home Trade to notice the lower standard now prevailing for the Kenya coffee for this has been very popular with them for many years, and we now hear similar complaints, as regards these coffees, that we have so long heard about the East Indias, namely, that 'They are not what they used to be.' We hear imports of this growth are likely to exceed last season's total, and if this should be the case, we fear values of end of season shipments will be on a low basis.

COSTA RICAS.—Arrivals of New Crop have so far been on a limited scale and have met a good demand, but larger consignments are near at hand. The quality of the coffee continues to give satisfaction and we have not yet seen the best marks.

BUKOBAS.—Transactions, so far as shipments to Continental Ports and America, have been almost negligible during the past three months. We learn from Mombasa that a fair quantity has been exported to local Eastern markets, but these cannot continue to buy indefinitely. It is probable then, that there is still a large quantity of coffee available, and being held up in the hopes of a recovery in prices. The native planters, we fear, will be disappointed, for we regret we cannot hold out any hope of an advance in value in this class of coffee, rather do we look for still lower prices, if the coffee is forwarded from the Interior to be sold in Western markets. No doubt the native is puzzled in regard to the collapse in coffee prices, and reluctant to believe that conditions are so hopeless as prices on the Coast indicate, but we can only point out that Santos Superior, a bold wellcleaned coffee of a standard type, is selling at 44/- per cwt. c. & f., and the lower grade, Rio No. 7, also a standard type, can be bought at 30 per cwt. c. & f. This latter coffee also, being a standardized grade, traders know the class of coffee they are buying, but with Bukoba Native f.a.q. they cannot be certain beforehand in regard to the percentage of blacks, broken and grit they will receive in these deliveries. It may be further impressed on the planters that there are millions of bags of both of above descriptions awaiting sale, with the probability that financial conditions in Brazil, being as they are, will lead to the realization of stocks, involving lower prices.

BRAZILS.—With the success of the Revolutionaries and the cost of operations throwing a further burden on the already compromised position of the Republic's finances, we cannot see that the coffee situation has changed for the better, despite the declarations of the New Government that they will do their best to carry on the policy of their predecessors. During hostilities when trading and shipping were brought to a standstill, quotations were marked higher, but advanced prices were more or less nominal, and since the accession of the New Ministry, values have continued to fall away, due no doubt to the necessity to find funds by realization of coffee. In this connection we may note, in passing, that the State of Rio has defaulted in payment of the coupon of the 1927 loan due December 15, though it is stated it hopes to meet this obligation at an early date.

It is difficult to see where any favourable sign of improvement in values can appear, for the World's production of coffee is at present far in excess of consumption with visible stocks in Brazil abundant, and the potential production of Mild Coffees still on the up-grade. The position then can only be remedied by curtailment of production, willingly or otherwise. Despite the seriously impoverished purchasing powers of the coffee drinking peoples, deliveries may be said to be satisfactory, but whether current lower prices will have the effect of increasing consumption is a moot point.

We quote spot prices in London and give the statistical position at date below :—

EAST INDIA, Good to fine	...	95/- @ 140/- per cwt.
Low to Medium	...	65/- @ 80/-
COSTA RICA, Good to fine	...	115/- @ 155/-
" Low to Medium	...	50/- @ 85/-
KENYA, Good to Fine	...	75/- @ 125/-
" Low to Medium	...	25/- @ 65/-
BUKOBA, Plantation, c.f.i.	...	36/-
" Native	...	26/-
JAVA ROBUSTA, f.a.q., c.f.i.	...	42/-
JAVA PALAM BANG, f.a.q., c.f.i.	...	28/-
SANTOS SUPERIOR, c. & f.	...	44/-
RIO No. 7, c. & f.	...	30/-

	Landed		Home Con.		Export		Stock		
	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1928
COFFEE—									
British West India ... tons	88	69	52	51	1	24	66	31	37
British East India ...	4,243	1,132	1,811	1,150	2,024	389	802	396	803
Total British Plantation...	4,331	1,201	1,863	1,201	2,025	413	868	427	840
Mocha ...	951	947	700	707	143	154	489	386	300
Foreign East India ...	266	431	301	417	37	27	171	250	263
Brazil ...	402	465	241	365	106	212	159	333	445
Colombian ...	1,489	1,977	913	1,204	809	810	554	783	820
Costa Rica ...	15,855	12,776	8,722	7,108	7,453	5,788	2,171	2,493	2,523
Guatemala, etc.	1,177	898	456	441	633	526	208	156	225
African ...	15,671	9,256	8,551	7,637	6,191	1,639	2,889	1,931	1,971
Total Foreign...	35,811	26,750	19,884	17,789	15,372	9,156	6,641	6,332	6,547
Grand Total tons.	40,142	27,951	21,747	18,990	17,397	9,569	7,509	6,759	7,387

TEA

The market has shown little or no change during the period under review. Good liquoring kinds continue to sell well and common descriptions met a hardening tendency at the closing sales of the year. Export demand has been quiet and whole leaf grades have suffered a setback in value.

Clean common Indian B.P.S. is now 9½d. per lb. compared with 9½d. per lb. at the end of August and 8½d. per lb. a year ago.

The London stock at the end of November was 243½ million lbs. against 235½ million lbs. a year ago. Imports from January 1 to November 30, 1930, have declined 29 million lbs. compared with corresponding period last year and deliveries for the same period mark an increase of 3 million lbs. The Northern Indian crop is now closed and is 44 million lbs. less than last year, the agreed cut in crop was 32 million lbs.

The restriction scheme of 1930 has had the effect of keeping the market steady and perhaps preventing what might have been one of the worst slumps in the history of the Trade; in fact tea generally is about 1d. per lb. higher than it was this time last year and if the scheme is continued in 1931, which is very probable—as prices are still under cost of production except for gardens capable of producing good quality—the future of the industry seems assured.

RUBBER

Rubber has continued a dull market during the autumn months but prices, after dipping to new low levels, close somewhat firmer on balance. Spot Ribbed Smoked Sheet after selling down to 3½d. per lb. recovered to 4½d. and to-day is quoted at 4½d. per lb.

Conditions in the industry remain depressed in spite of daily announcements of further shutting down of whole estates and weak areas.

While the output of rubber is already showing signs of reduction, this can have no effect on the price until consumption improves; in America, however, consumption figures go from bad to worse, and 20,000 tons is the estimated figure for December. The figures for the rest of the world are more satisfactory.

We estimate the shipments in 1930 to have amounted to 850,000 tons and the consumption to 710,000 tons. It is evident from these figures how radically the position must change before better prices can be expected.

We quote :—

PLANTATION SMOKED SHEETS	Spot	... 4½d. per lb.
Do.	January/March...	4½d. "
Do.	April/June ...	4½d. "
LONDON STOCK	77,276 tons—same date last year	54,218 tons.
LIVERPOOL STOCK	40,593 tons	19,059 "

EAST AFRICAN COFFEE PLANTERS

HOPES AND RESOLUTIONS AT ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting of the Coffee Planters' Union of Kenya and East Africa, in Nairobi, on September 1, 1930, writes the *Empire Production and Export* in its January 1931 number, Mr. McLellan Wilson presided over a gathering of about 40 members. The Union is affiliated to the British Empire Producers' Organization; and the President's report referred to 'valuable help' received from the organization, particularly in publicity in the Union of South Africa.

Mr. Holm, Director of Agriculture, opening the meeting, said that he was glad again to have the opportunity of testifying to the value of the work done by the Coffee Planters' Union and the spirit of co-operation which existed between its Council and his Department. He stated that there was every reason to hope that the present crop would be of good quality and readily absorbed by the market; but that there was little hope that former high prices would be regained. He urged the necessity of lowering cost of production and raising average yield and quality. New markets should be opened up, especially for the inferior grades.

He estimated that the additional area planted with coffee since August, 1929, was 4,000 acres, and that the exports to July 31 last were 226,000 cwt., of a value of £1,169,000. It was roughly estimated that the present crop would total about 250,000 cwt., but that a considerable drop in value must be expected.

Referring to the proposed Coffee Board and additional scientific services, he explained that a Bill had been drafted by the Attorney-General in collaboration with himself to give effect to the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission and the wishes of the industry. This Bill had been reviewed by the Coffee Consulting Committee, who had recommended that the Bill be introduced to Legislative Council but not put into operation until the industry and Government were better able to contribute financially to the cost. He understood that the Bill would be referred to the Union for comment.

He outlined the work which had been done by the Department under the Diseases of Plants Prevention Ordinance and the many items of research into questions of pests and disease, soil fertility, fermentation of coffee, etc., which had been carried out in the Scott Laboratories and in the field.

In conclusion, Mr. Holm expressed the view that the resources of the Colony were fundamentally sound, and that both the Colony and the Coffee Planters would emerge from this testing period with renewed strength and experience through which even greater success and prosperity in the future would be assured.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In the absence in England of the President, Mr. C. Kenneth Archer, the Chairman read the President's Report for the year ended December 31, 1929.

Your Council had hopes that in the first half of the year the Government would have prepared a Bill on the subject of the proposed Coffee Board, but only on Saturday was a draft Bill discussed by the Coffee Consulting Committee. Your Council has had no opportunity of seeing it yet.

Our Annual General Meeting in 1929 was held on January 28, and was well attended. Resolutions were then passed supporting Convention Resolutions asking for the appointment of an Agricultural Commission and calling attention to the inadequacy of scientific services rendered to the coffee industry. The feature of the year under review was the appointment of that Agricultural Commission under Sir Daniel Hall. I wish to take this opportunity of expressing the gratitude of the Coffee Planters' Union to him and other members of the Commission for their valuable report.

Your Council prepared two Memoranda which were presented to the Commission, and gave verbal evidence. One Memorandum dealt with the proposed Coffee Board, and set forth suggestions which had been approved by a representative public meeting of coffee planters held under the auspices of this Union. The other Memorandum dealt with coffee growing

by natives. Both these subjects are dealt with in the report of the Commission, and the views put forward by your Council received general approval. In speeches at home before scientific associations, Sir Daniel Hall has repeatedly advocated the formation of a Coffee Board.

The membership of the Union in 1929 was 246, against 213 for 1928, 188 in 1927, 165 in 1926, and 117 in 1925. Our Secretary is to be congratulated on more than doubling the membership since he assumed office at the beginning of 1926.

The Committee appointed in June to report on methods for improving general conditions affecting the industry submitted an interim report which was adopted by the Council and forwarded to the Agricultural Commission. This report, with slight modifications, was adopted by the public meeting held in November, and formed the basis of recommendations to Government regarding legislation on the question of the Coffee Board.

I wish, on behalf of your President, to thank the Members of the Council and the Committees for hearty and unfailing support; also our London Vice-President, Lt.-Col. R. P. Collings-Wells.

In conclusion I wish to record the grateful thanks of the Union for the ready help and assistance always accorded it by the Director of Agriculture and Officers of his Department, by H.M. Trade Commissioner, Nairobi, and the Trade and Information Bureau in London, by the Empire Marketing Board, by the Trade Commissioner for the Union of South Africa and by the Press.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Mr. McLellan Wilson stated that since the close of last year a large increase in the membership of the Union had been due chiefly to the interest taken by planters in proposals for a Coffee Board. It was gratifying that enquiries had been received from planters in Tanganyika and Uganda as to the possibility of inclusion under the proposed scheme. He was of opinion that if the Coffee Board had been in existence now it would have been of inestimable benefit to the industry. Such a Board would be able to explore new markets in a manner impossible for individuals.

The Chairman urged Government to give greater publicity to the activities of the Board of Agriculture. Planters needed help and advice which the Board should be in a position to give. The Union had been asked to furnish figures as to costs of production and other questions affecting the industry. He believed the Board was doing good work, but the public ought to be kept informed.

He appealed for gifts of coffee for distribution at the Antwerp Exhibition, for a representative exhibit to tour South Africa next year, and for other exhibitions and shows in England and elsewhere.

The balance sheet was approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In view of the fact that there were only four months to the end of the year; on the motion of Major Steele, seconded by Mr. Robson, it was resolved: 'That the present Officers of the Union be re-elected.'

POLLUTION OF RIVERS

Mr. Dacre Shaw moved: 'That the Council of the Union be requested to discuss immediately with Government the question of pollution of rivers, and to urge the necessity for adopting such means as may be suitable for mitigating and finally preventing the damage caused by the introduction to

rivers and streams of coffee pulp, sisal waste, and waste impregnated with deleterious matter to the detriment of agricultural produce and public health.' Captain Sprott seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

DISEASES AND PESTS

The Chairman invited Officers of the Department of Agriculture to speak on this subject. Mealy bug, coffee berry disease, antestia leaf-eating caterpillar, and new capsid bug were dealt with.

The Agricultural Chemist stated that a bulletin on organic manures will shortly be published.

COFFEE BOARD

Col. Marsh introduced a motion on this subject. At present the Members of the Union were carrying the full burden of publicity which is of benefit to all planters. It was time to establish the Board to make every planter contribute his share. Some of the first objects of the Board would be to study publicity and marketing conditions. He moved: 'That this meeting of the Coffee Planters' Union of Kenya and East Africa is of opinion that the Coffee Industry Bill should be put on the Statute Book at the earliest possible opportunity, and that the Ordinance be put into operation immediately thereafter—even if necessary on a limited basis—and not allowed to lapse.'

Captain Sprott seconded. Mr. Nordlinger, Mr. Robson, and Major Steele also spoke to the motion, which was carried.

NOW IS THE TIME. I—THE GOLOSH

The golosh has been curiously neglected in this country, whereas in America it is an indispensable part of the ordinary man's equipment. If the British public could be impressed with the advantages of wearing goloshes in a climate like ours, millions of pairs could be sold annually and a big addition to rubber consumption be ensured.

In approaching this subject, we are reminded of the true story of the head of a great bootmaking firm who had submitted to him a patent detachable rubber sole. He examined it from every point of view, stood it in water and found it to be damp-proof, and finally said: 'Yes, an excellent invention, smart in appearance, and does everything claimed for it, but it would cost me many thousands to get the public to look at it!' This anecdote will serve to illustrate the stubborn conservatism of the average Briton. He will follow the same habits, the same methods, the same fashions for a life-time, despite obvious disadvantages, and even discomfort, because these defects have never been emphasized strongly enough. Especially is he the slave of fashion, and this not alone from a natural reluctance to change, but from a dislike of making himself conspicuous. Hence any deviation from the conventional has to bear the hall-mark of approval of some recognized authority on men's attire. For instance, an announcement that the PRINCE OF WALES had worn brown shoes with a dinner jacket might suffice to shatter one of the most sacred sartorial taboos, but nothing short of such an example would persuade the average well-dressed man to commit so unforgivable a solecism. We may therefore, to this extent, qualify the

dictum of the great bootmaker quoted above. Given a strong enough lead, the British public will adopt a new style of wear as readily as any other nation, but failing such a lead, it will call for a vast expenditure in propaganda to persuade people to make a change in sufficient numbers to ensure a profit on capital outlay.

All this is relevant to the subject of the present article. Fashions in footwear are as arbitrary as in any other detail of wearing apparel. Two illustrations will suffice. Short frocks and the universal artificial silk stocking rendered some protection for women's legs in bad weather imperative, and so the way was made easy for the introduction: first, of the Russian boot; and then of the now ubiquitous Wellington; but it is safe to say that neither would have come into vogue if fashion had not decreed that frocks should end at the knee. Again, it has taken years of patient publicity to popularize the rubber sole, but all those efforts might have failed of their purpose if there had not been a world shortage of hides, and the consequent use of inferior leather substitutes. The rubber sole would no doubt have won its way on its merits in time, but its advent was certainly quickened by the high price of reliable leather. And yet, curiously enough, Englishmen never seem to have thought of the alternative safeguard against damp feet which had a much longer record than rubber soles and was, moreover, habitually used by the male population of the other great centres of the English-speaking world.

In America every well-dressed man puts on his rubber overshoes as a matter of course when the streets are damp, and slips them off when he gets under cover again. It is a fixed custom with him. The Englishman, on the contrary, will sit about all day with sodden leather on his feet and revile the elements, simply because it has never been implanted on his mind with sufficient emphasis, that he can remain dry shod through the worst wintry slush by taking to the golosh habit. This difference in the habits of Americans and Britons, it may be noted, has radically affected the types of footwear in the two countries. The smart American never wears heavy, clumsy-looking boots because he does not need them to protect his feet; he is as daintily shod winter as in summer, and as a result his 'gum-shoes' are made to size and look as neat as a patent-leather boot. Imposed on men's winter boots in this country, with their wide, thick welts, they would certainly not add to the elegance of shape.

If this objection to the golosh exists, it can be overcome by following the American example in the style of footwear. The prejudice, however, goes deeper than this. There seems to be an erroneous idea that goloshes are effeminate, and would excite derision on a masculine foot. Be this as it may, the fact remains that one can take observation in train, omnibus, or crowded street, for weeks on end, without seeing a single man wearing a pair of goloshes. It is not as if, as a nation, we took a pride in the appearance of our feet. Male footwear in winter time is ugly enough in all conscience. Nor is it by any means damp-proof. It is no exaggeration to say that a person with a limited supply of boots is never really dry shod throughout the wet months. Yet it is a well-known fact that all the minor ills to which flesh is heir arise from cold feet. If the medical profession would combine in recommending so simple a device for avoiding this evil, they could probably make the golosh a popular institution instead of being an object of curiosity. But it would certainly mean a loss of the larger part of their practice. Once the taste had been fostered, the sales might easily run to many millions every year. Here, then, is a good subject for vigorous propaganda in the interests of rubber consumption.—*Rubber Age*.

TEA

Tea for villages :—A scheme for increasing the consumption of tea among the masses of India was outlined by the chairman, Mr. W. G. McKercher, at the annual meeting of the Assam branch of the Indian Tea Association at the Jorhot Gymkhana Club. Mr. McKercher said that the last general meeting was held in somewhat depressing circumstances owing to the abolition of the tea duty and to supplies having far exceeded the demand. He regretted to say that negotiations for the supply of tea to Russia had fallen through. The scheme for the restriction of crops had saved the situation to some extent, as, coupled with climatic conditions, it had resulted in a reduction of the North India crop to the end of October of just under 40 million lb. The market, however, was still depressed, and until the heavy stocks were reduced, the outlook for the producer must cause anxiety. Negotiations were taking place for a continuance of the restriction scheme for 1931.

Increasing sale :—‘In April last,’ added the chairman, ‘this Association addressed the Calcutta Association on the subject of increasing the sale of tea in India, and suggested that arrangements should be made by that Association, of the Tea Cess Committee, to supply for sale packets containing 2 ounces and 4 ounces of tea. We also suggested that the *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. on all tea imported into India should be increased. These recommendations were sent to London, and the matter is still the subject of correspondence. In my opinion, with the extension of production in Java, Southern India, Kenya, and other countries restriction is merely a palliative, and unless consumption is increased the future of the industry is far from bright. The sale of common teas in India could undoubtedly be enormously increased, and we should therefore do all that we can to make early arrangements to this end. The success of the Tea Cess Committee’s propaganda in Assam is proof that similar success would be forthcoming in other parts of India if tea was available for sale to the rural population throughout India. In my opinion we are neglecting the best market for increased consumption.’

The Central Factory :—The chairman then described the plan for increasing the sale of tea in India. Under it a packing centre factory would be established with a tobacco packing type of machinery for one ounce packets with the price, two pice per ounce, printed on them. Gardens would supply the factory with common sweet tea at eight annas per lb. Distribution would be supervised by travelling assistants responsible for periodically inspecting the stocks of shopkeepers in their area. The shopkeepers’ profit should not exceed one anna in the rupee, and might be paid from the Tea Cess funds.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

CORRIGENDUM

We much regret that owing to a printer’s error in our last issue—Vide page 51—the names of Managers of the Southern India Plantations Agency, Limited, of Belmont, Coonoor, were given as Messrs. J. N. Smith and ‘St.’ S. Cameron instead of Messrs. H. S. Cameron and J. N. Smith.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Income and Expenditure Account

April 1st to December 31st, 1930

INCOME	Amount	EXPENDITURE			Amount
To Subscriptions received from—		RS	A	P	
Anamalais .....	... 1,290	0	0	By Assistance granted—	
Central Travancore .....	... 515	0	0	Case No. 1. Widow	... 675
Coorg .....	... 275	0	0	2. Do.	... 450
Kanan Devans .....	... 50	0	0	3. Child	... 450
Mundakayam .....	... 25	4	0	4. Education 2 boys	... 926
Mysore .....	... 275	0	0	2 girls	... 9
Nelliampathies .....	... 70	0	0	5. Do.	... 516
Nilgiri-Wynaad .....	... 50	0	0	6. Invalid Planter	... 13
Shevaroys .....	... 40	0	0	7. Do.	... 320
South Travancore .....	... 59	0	0	8. Education 1 girl	... 7
West Coast .....	... 635	0	0	9. Planter	... 10
Wynaad .....	... 370	0	0	10. Education 1 boy and 2 girls	... 0
Firms .....	... 800	0	0	11. Passages of Planter and wife	... 0
U.P.A.S.I. Staff .....	... 325	0	0	12. Wife of a Planter	... 0
	... 120	0	0	By Expenses—	
				Postage and Telegrams	... 7
				Bank charges	... 0
To Interest received .....	... 5,290	4	0		27
To Balance being excess of Expenditure .....	... 2,183	4	2		3
Total .....	... 209	5	6	Total	12
					0
					8
					13
					14

6th February, 1931.

H. WADDINGTON,
Secretary.

DISTRICT NOTES

COORG

Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Coorg Planters Association, held in the North Coorg Club, Mercara, on Monday, January 19, 1931 at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), P. G. Tipping, J. B. Reid, W. A. F. Bracken, A. L. Alexander, S. P. St. C. Raymond, H. F. Murland, N. M. Scholfield, L. Newcome, G. Scotland, W. P. Scott, J. S. H. Morgan, E. C. H. Morgan, J. L. Smyth, G. M. Brameld, B. S. Bucknall, C. L. J. Humphreys, W. R. Wright, J. O. F. Maurice, G. A. Tippets-Aylmer, R. J. Devaz, R. B. Cunningham, I. Bull, R. P. W. Potter, W. A. Davis, J. S. Youngman and A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

By Proxy :

Messrs. D. J. Duncan, C. Raith, F. W. Gerrard and Capt. D. N. Pitcairn.

Visitors :

Mr. G. W. Priestley, I.C.S., Commissioner of Coorg, and Messrs. C. S. Iron, K. H. Fraser, D. F. Mursell and C. L. Berg, Executive Engineer, Coorg.

The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman then referred to the death of Mrs. Macpherson, who had for many years been associated with Coorg Planters. At the request of the meeting, the Honorary Secretary was instructed to convey to her relatives its sympathy in their great loss.

The minutes of the last meeting having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle* were taken as read.

The Chairman then apologized to those present for cancelling the meeting called for December 12, 1930, and gave his reasons for so doing.

Reduction in Coolies Wages.—Before putting the resolution on this subject to the vote, the Chairman proposed that the meeting should go into Committee for a full discussion.

A resolution on the subject was then put forward by Mr. Newcome and seconded by Mr. J. S. H. Morgan which was carried.

Coffee Growers' Association.—Mr. J. S. H. Morgan proposed and Mr. Newcome seconded the following resolutions :

1. 'That this Meeting is in favour of forming a Coffee Growers' Association'.
2. 'That this Association do appoint two Delegates to discuss with the two Delegates already selected from the Mysore Planters' Association the question of forming :
 - i. A Coffee Growers' Association and
 - ii. A Scheme for the better marketing of our produce in India'.

Mr. Morgan explained that the purpose of forming a Coffee Growers' Association was not to break away from the U.P.A.S.I., but as a means of uniting all planters, Indian and European to evolve a scheme for the better marketing of their produce in India.

Both resolutions were then carried unanimously. The delegates chosen were Mr. Morgan and Col. Murland, who kindly agreed to act.

Correspondence and any other business.—S.I.P.B.F.—The Chairman explained that the method previously adopted of collecting subscriptions on the V.P.P. system had been found unsuitable, and requested members to send in their contributions direct to the Honorary Secretary of this Association. A list was then passed round calling for donations.

An application for relief from this found was then placed before the meeting, and the necessary recommendation duly given.

Read letter from the Commissioner of Coorg re rates of pay to coolies in Government Departments.

Read proceedings of Executive Committee Meeting, and the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I.'s Report.

Read letter from Mr. Tipping *re* the condition of the 10th Mile Road, and the Honorary Secretary was requested to point out to the Executive Engineer the condition of this road.

Curing Rates.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to request all Curing Firms to reduce their rates in consequence of the recent fall in the cost of bags and garbling.

Mr. Cunningham then drew the attention of members to the fact that this was the last occasion on which Mr. Priestley would attend a meeting as our Commissioner, and proposed a vote of thanks to him for his friendly co-operation in all our difficulties, which was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary and Members of the North Coorg Club for the use of their room.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Sd.) A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

NELLIAMPATHY

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Nelliampathy Planters' Association held at Cotengady on January 15, 1931 at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. E G. Cameron (*Chairman*) Hall, Davis, White, Bowles (*Honorary Secretary*) and H. D. Chaldecott (*by proxy*).

Minutes of last General Meeting were, on the Chairman's suggestion taken as read and confirmed.

Chairman's Address

GENTLEMEN,

Before asking your Honorary Secretary to read his Report, I will make a brief resume of matters that have been of special interest during the year. The year just passed has been one of special difficulty for all products of this Association. Rubber touched 3 5/16 on September 29, 1930, the lowest on record. Although there is some improvement of price at present, few estates can now be working at anything but a loss.

Coffee has had a bad year; crops due to unfavourable weather were poor and prices poorer. The outlook with South America's huge stocks and unsettled conditions cannot be satisfactory although the present demand appears slightly better. For Robusta the position has been improved by the prohibition of imports due to the Government of India's belated action over the Stephanoderes beetle which should help the prices of this. Cardamoms have also been lower than for some years.

Tea shows more sign of improvement than any of the other products. Southern India averaged 1-2-52 against 1-3-35 in 1929 but the prices now are rather better and it is to be hoped that the estimated reduction from restriction of some 44 millions in India will have a good effect.

We sent a member to Bangalore this year, which I hope we shall be able to continue doing, as it keeps us in touch with current planting politics and further more a small Association such as this is very apt to have its interests overlooked unless its own member is there to state them.

Communications.—On this vital point the District has made considerable progress. The Palghat-Pollachi Railway is nearing completion and another year ought to see it opened. The new Cochin Ghat Road is steadily nearing the head of the ghat, about 2/3 having been completed and should be finished by next August. This will then give us the easiest approach to any Planting District in Southern India and if, as we hope, the Railway from Kollengode to Trichur is made direct access to the Port of Cochin. As you know we sent a Deputation to the Dewan of Cochin backed by the Anamallais, which was sympathetically received and has already borne fruit.

The New Cochin State Electric Scheme at Kariarkutty seems certain to materialize which will make cheap electric power available within 10 miles of the centre of the District.

We can only hope the present depressed state of our products in conjunction with the General Trade Depression of the world will soon improve and allow us a reasonable profit on our products.

Before closing I would like to appeal very strongly on behalf of our Benevolent Fund. Many men are out of billets through no fault of their own, with families

depending on them and little likelihood of being able to get other employment. Any donations you can spare in addition to your subscriptions will, I know, be gratefully received.

Many thanks are due to the Committee and Honorary Secretary for the hard work they have put in.

Honorary Secretary's Reports and Accounts.—The Honorary Secretary read his reports and Mr. Cameron proposed that 'the accounts as audited by Mr. Thampan be passed'.

Seconded by Mr. Davis and Carried.

Road Committees.—(a) Kollengode-Nemmani Road. The Committee reported anent this work and tabled correspondence on the subject which was discussed.

It was decided to leave the matter to the Road Committee to deal with. On the resignation of the Committee Messrs. A. Hall and E. G. Cameron were re-elected as members of the Nemmani Road Committee.

(b) Cochin Ghat and Cochin Minor Roads. The Committee reported that progress on the ghat in general was good. Two bridges remain to be built, one of which is half done. Cars can now come to mile 9·3 and within 3 weeks should be able to come to mile 11·6. The whole ghat to Nadughani Wale should be completed by the end of August if progress continues as at present. After discussion it was decided to cancel existing instructions to this Committee.

A committee of two was appointed (Messrs. Hall and Davis) with powers to deal with all such road matters in Cochin State as do not involve the Association or its members in any expenditure whatsoever.

Deputation to the Dewan of Cochin.—The delegates read a report on the deputation's conversations with the Dewan.

A vote of thanks to the delegates for their work on behalf of the Association was passed unanimously.

The Road Committee was instructed to take any action necessary to ensure the Sheerneilly—Nadughani section of the old ghat road, which is in a very bad condition be made passable for Monsoon traffic this year. The Committee was also instructed to take up the question of repairs to the Karadymullah Karapara Boundary bridge.

Drawback of Custom Duty on Tea and Rubber Chests.—Correspondence on this subject was read and discussed.

Proposed by Mr. Davis that 'The Association supports the Cochin Chamber of Commerce in requesting Government to reduce import duties on Tea and Rubber Chests and at the same time suggests that the right to claim drawback of duty be withdrawn. The Association considers however, that claims for drawback should be continued until such time as Government falls in with these views.'

Seconded by Mr. Hall and Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to send copies of this motion to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce and to All-District Associations.

MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION AND UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to ask for a copy of the U.P.A.S.I. reply to the S. Indian Association's letter dated October 9.

Proceedings of Dewan of Cochin.—Proposed by Mr. Davis seconded by Mr. Hall—This Association unanimously thanks the Dewan for his kindness in receiving the Association's representatives. It also records its appreciation of the prompt proclamation of the Karapara Rogue and of the concession in the matter of annual quit rents.

Carried unanimously.

Election of Office Bearers.

Chairman.—Mr. E. G. Cameron was proposed by Mr. Davis for the Chair. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hall and carried.

Honorary Secretary.—Mr. Davis was proposed by Mr. Hall and the motion was seconded by Mr. White and carried.

Committee.—The following committee was elected for the year, Chairman, Secretary and Messrs Hall, White, and Bowles, whereupon the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Messrs. Cameron and Bowles for their work during the year and Mr. and Mrs. Hall for the use of their Bungalow.

P. WELLINGER DAVIS,
Honorary Secretary.

January 28, 1931.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.

Average prices obtained for tea.

Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending Jany. 22, 1931	January 1 to Jany. 22, 1931	January 1 to Jany. 22, 1930
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, January 22, 1931)			N. India.	s. d. 1 2·03	s. d. 1 2·15	s. d. 1 1·99
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —		s. d.	S. India.	a 1 2·23	b 1 2·60	c 1 1·47
Thay Mudi	265	1 5½	Ceylon...	1 5·00	1 5·60	1 5·85
Mukottu Mudi	264	1 5½	Java ...	0 10·71	0 10·94	0 9·42
Thoni Mudi	298	1 4½	Sumatra.	0 11·87	0 11·14	0 10·73
* Stanmore	227	1 3½				
*Pannimade	72	1 3½				
Selaliparai	42	1 3½	Nyassa- l a n d	0 9·14	0 9·65	0 9·34
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i> —			Total...	d 1 2·35	e 1 2·68	f 1 2·44
Mount	72	1 4½				
Stagbrook	144	1 3½				
Ladrum	111	1 3½				
Fairfield	87	1 3½				
Injimullay	75	1 3½				
Kolie Kanum	134	1 2½				
Twyford and Ashley Estates :—						
Vembanaad	121	1 2½				
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —						
Vagavurrai	112	1 7				
Chokanaad	78	1 5				
*Perlavurrai	203	1 4½				
*Sevenmallay	64	1 4½				
Chokanaad	43	1 3				
Kalaar	115	1 2				
(d) <i>Mundakayam</i> —						
*Valley End	114	1 1				
Yendar	127	1 0½				
Orakaden	190	1 0				
(e) <i>Nilgiris</i> —						
*Chamraj	68	1 8½				
Prospect	137	1 6½				
Nonsuch	114	1 5				
Ipx Lodge	112	1 4½				
*Glendale	140	1 3				
Rob Roy	69	1 2½				
(f) <i>Nilgiri-Wynaad</i> —						
Seaforth	113	1 1½				
(g) <i>South Travancore</i> —						
*Poonmudi	60	1 0½				

*Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 6,982 b 21,119 c 26,073
d 93,192 e 287,000 f 297,471

(B) FEE.—

SPECIAL CABLE
LONDON 'A' QUALITY

FEBRUARY 11, 1931, 170s. MARKET

EASY

(C) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, February 10, 1931 was 3½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, February 7, 1931, were 81,163 tons, an increase of 124 tons on January 31, 1931 inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, February 7, 1931, were 43,293 tons, a decrease of 170 tons on January 31, 1931 inventory.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, February 12, 1931

Planting.—On a further drop in the price of Raw Rubber to about 3½d., share values were marked down during the first week of the fortnight under review, but to-day's cabled prices show an all-round improvement in Rubber Shares. *Malayalam*s were done at about 14s. In Rupee Scrips, there was nothing doing in *Rubbers*, whilst in *Teas*, *Coonoors* changed hands at Rs. 64. The Section however closed with a better buying enquiry, and renewed activity may be seen in the near future.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£ 1	0	4 1½	+ 4½d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£ 1	0	10 9	- 1s. 3d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£ 1	0	13 6	- 1s. 3d.
4. Merliniau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	...
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£ 1	1	5 0	...
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	..
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£ 1	0	5 0	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	4 0	- 1s.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£ 1	0	8 0	- 1s. 9d.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	16 3	- 6d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers	—	
			—	—
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	3
Cochins Rs. 15	12½	15
Devasholas Rs. 9	6	7
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	24½ x.d.
Kalasas Rs. 15	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	35	38
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	4	8
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	4	5
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	22	23
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	29	31
" (Rs. 15) Rs. 14 paid	21
Periasholas Rs. 10	1	2
Periyars Rs. 10	4	5
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	6	7
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	94	96
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	16

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association on February 10, 1931)

TEA.—1,684,701 lbs. were brought forward. The market for common teas is lower. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA.** Quality was well maintained but the selection was rather limited. Demand was active and quotations remained fully steady. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality was about on a par with last week's offerings and there was good general demand. Brokens must be quoted steady but leaf grades registered a decline especially in the case of Pekoes. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Invoices with colour came to a

good market but plain and thin liquoring sorts were in poor request and declined 2 to 3 cents. Low GROWN. Demand for Black leaf descriptions was dull and prices receded 2 to 3 cents. Reddish undesirable lots were not wanted and were largely withdrawn ; Sales were only possible at a drop of 4 to 6 cents. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. With the exception of a few finest sorts, offerings of these descriptions came to an easier market.

South Indian Teas in Auction of January 27, 1931, obtained the following prices :-

Estates				Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai	...	...	...	10,718	1·24
Sothuparai	...	...	...	16,464	1·12
Kanniamallay	...	...	...	18,641	1·01
Madupatty	...	...	...	17,522	83
Pullivasal	...	...	...	12,391	77
Chinnar	...	...	...	6,770	49

RUBBER.—About 341 tons were offered at the Auction held on January 29, 1931. There was an active and general demand for all grades and with a few exceptions prices were steady at the previous Auction rates. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold steadily throughout at 16½ cents showing no change on last week's prices. All other grades of Sheet were well competed for and sold at steady rates. Contract Crepe was a good market at 16 cents—unchanged, and other grades of Crepe were fully steady. Scrap Crepes met with good competition but these were all rather easier, No. 1 being a half cent down and inferior grades 1-1½ cents down. There was again a poor demand for Scraps and these may be quoted about a half cent easier.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

January 25, 1931 to February 7, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	1·04	80·99	82·03	24. Coonoor	...	46·42	46·42
2. Kalthuritty.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri	...	63·73	63·73
3. Kallar Bdge.	...	152·08	152·08	26. Ootacamund.	...	57·01	57·01
4. Koney	...	123·40	123·40	27. Yercaud	...	65·20	65·20
5. Pattanapura.	...	111·58	111·58	28. Range Mango	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	...	75·68	75·68
7. Peermade	...	198·53	198·53	31. CALICUR	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford	...	241·09	241·09	32. Kuttiyadi	...	131·86	131·86
9. V'periyar	...	95·83	95·83	33. Vayitri	...	155·15	155·15
10. Kalaar	...	220·14	220·14	34. Manantoddi.	...	102·38	102·38
11. Chittuvurrai	...	54·37	54·37	35. Billigiris	...	83·80	83·80
12. Bodr' KANUR	...	26·76	26·76	36. Sidipur	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN	0·21	113·56	113·77	37. Pollibetta	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply	...	140·25	140·25	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	...	122·02	122·02	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis	...	187·42	187·42	40. Kadamanie	...	230·07	230·07
17. POLLACHIE	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonnur	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara	...	154·06	154·06	43. Merthi subgey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode..	...	128·45	128·45	44. Kelagur	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur	...	98·49	98·49	45. Durgadbettia.	...	101·99	101·99
22. Naduvattam	...	125·73	125·73	46. MANGALORE	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	0·01	122·96	122·97	47. MADRAS	...	68·72	68·72

F=During the Fortnight,

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 5]

February 28, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 185, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE opening of the British Industries Fair with its centres at Olympia and White City, London and Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, coincides with a maximum determination and application to work on the part of every citizen. No foresight, thought and care in organization has been spared to make this Fair the most comprehensive and valuable display ever held in the British Isles. The increase in the number of Exhibitors means that practically the whole range of British Industry is covered and every step has been taken to ensure that buyers may see quickly and in comfort the best of Home and Empire manufactures.

Efforts to improve British Trade
It is universally admitted that the year 1930 will stand out prominently among the great periods of general industrial depression ranking with the years 1907 and 1921 in the measure of its severity, but no one having responsibility for the direction of trade in any branch, will hesitate to endorse the phrase that 'the trade position will not right itself.'

Our rashness and indifference to national economy has in the past been lamentable and we have for too long tolerated the improvident spending of money on public schemes which have not proved worthy of support; but now every penny spent has to be made good. If the new year has brought introspection, it has also brought the knowledge that to compete with nations more careful than ourselves, our methods will have to be revised.

The economic crisis which oppresses the business world to-day is the most gratuitous in history.

All essential circumstances except monetary wisdom favour an era of commercial prosperity and well-being.

Crops are more abundant than ever before, production has been brought by science to a fine art, enabling men to produce more at a less

cost, and if we as a country rise to the emergency as one, there need be no barrier to the attainment of security and real progress.

A British Trade Mission, appointed by the Department of Overseas Trade, is visiting Egypt early this year which is similar in character to trade missions sent to other foreign countries and the terms of reference correspond exactly with those of the mission that has recently visited Japan and is at present in China. The personnel of the mission includes Sir Arthur Balfour as Chairman and they will investigate the present position of trade between the United Kingdom and Egypt and report on what action should be taken to develop and increase that trade.

A great attempt is also being made to improve business and trade relations between Great Britain and the Argentine and there is no doubt that the personal visit of the Prince of Wales to Buenos Aires and other large centres will do much to foster trade between these countries.

Apart from the two ventures referred to above, there is undoubtedly a strong movement to bring about reciprocity within the Empire and in this connection it is interesting to record the remarks made by the Chairman of the South African Co-operative Fruit Exchange who at their Annual General Meeting, made a strong plea to South Africa to buy of Great Britain.

In the course of his speech, the Chairman called the attention of all fruit growers to the fair-minded policy of supporting British Trade in that country in return for the benefits received as fruit growers from the British people.

At the same time, he appealed to them not to support trade with the United States by buying American Motor Cars and Lorries, etc., as South Africa received no preference from that country.

We hope other countries will follow the example of South Africa and that the efforts now being made to improve the market for British goods will be productive of the results they merit, and that ere long the talk of trade depression will be a thing of the past.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

RUBBER PAVING ON A SEASIDE PARADE

A scheme which, if carried out in its entirety, will entail the paving with rubber of a considerable portion of the seaside parade at Hastings, has just been adopted by the enterprising Town Council of that place. The area to be treated is that portion of the parade between the west end of the White Rock Baths and the west end of Warrior Square, and the total cost of the scheme is £49,240, of which approximately £20,000 will be for surfacing the promenade with rubber. It is proposed, however, to test the suitability of the rubber paving by having a trial section laid at the estimated cost of £100 before proceeding with the whole scheme. At the meeting of the Town Council last week the Borough Engineer presented a report strongly in favour of rubber paving in colours and referred to rubber paving as being non-slippery, particularly easy for the feet, hard wearing, practically noiseless, obtainable in such soft colours as cannot be seen in other materials, and therefore superior to any other form of paving. A

large amount of work has to be done in the way of preparing foundations, and this it is expected will be started in October next. It is to be hoped that other seaside resorts will be moved to emulate in this respect the example of Hastings.

EUPHORBIA EXPLOITATION IN S. AFRICA

A few years ago a number of companies were formed in S. Africa with the idea of exploiting the latex of the Euphorbia tree, rubber at the time being in the neighbourhood of 3s. per lb. It has now been proved that to extract the rubber is not a payable proposition, but, at the same time, there are certain industrial uses to which the latex can be put and the Premier Rubber Corporation—one of the concerns to which we have referred—has recently made an arrangement with an American company as a result of which it is hoped to place the business on a paying basis. The issue lies in the collection of sufficient latex, and consequently every effort is being made to induce natives to offer themselves for employment as collectors. The work is light, working conditions are congenial, and the pay is good, and if sufficient labour supply can be secured and retained, the success of the venture is assured. Latex gathering will provide employment for quite a considerable number of natives physically unfitted for heavier labour, and it is to be hoped that they will immediately seize the opportunity now presenting itself to obtain remunerative work.

—*The India Rubber Journal.*

A LIVERPOOL LAMENT

The particular kind of hard luck story entitled *Why I lost that order*, has many variations. Sometimes one reason, sometimes another, is advanced, and the long-suffering sales manager knows them all. There may therefore be no novelty in the experience of which a Lancashire correspondent informs us this week. It seems that rubber floor, in use for many years at the circular Picton reading rooms at Liverpool has given really good service, after heavy use by the thousands of borrowers; but it has now worn down to the point where the movement of so many feet is such as to be objectionable to certain people. So the librarian got tenders for re-flooring with rubber. The sum was £100. This struck the Libraries Committee as so excessive in these days of economy that some cheaper *modus vivendi* was asked for. The librarian then rose to the occasion by himself suggesting that for £2 he could buy some dozen pairs of rubber shoes for the young borrowers to wear and so ensure silence. This idea for saving rates was thereupon approved! So rubber has evicted rubber.

—*The India Rubber Journal.*

IMPORTATION OF TEA INTO IRAQ

It will be recalled that a notification by the Government of Iraq prescribes regulations for the importation of tea for sale for consumption in that country. In terms of one of the regulations, all tea so imported is liable to analysis by order of the Director of Public Health, while another regulation gives discretion to the Director to exempt, from such analysis, tea of Ceylon origin certified by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce to conform to the standard prescribed in the regulations. The committee took

the matter up with government because they desired to ensure that any relaxation, which this provision might indicate, in favour of Ceylon teas, should be available also for teas of Indian origin. The committee have now heard from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, with whom they took the matter up, that information from Iraq confirms the view that the regulations were not intended to discriminate in favour of Ceylon and were not likely to affect adversely the export of Indian tea to that country as compared with other teas. The article of the regulations to which reference was specially made only provided for the manner in which the Iraq Government could best obtain the co-operation of the Ceylon Chamber in preventing the importation of adulterated tea from that country. This was the position in August last, in which, however, it was explained that the revision of the regulations was being considered by the Iraq Government. The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have now been informed that the regulations have been repealed, and that a general food regulation with reference to all foodstuffs has been adopted. Extracts from this regulation, in so far as it relates to tea, have been forwarded, and copies may be had by any members interested, on application at the office of the Chamber.

—Commerce.

THE WORLD'S RUBBER SUPPLIES

A PAPER BY DR. GEO. RAE

In the course of a paper on *The World's Rubber Supplies*, delivered at Birmingham before the Midland Section of the Institution of the Rubber Industry by Dr. George Rae, D.Sc. (Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited), on Tuesday, January 13, 1931, the speaker pointed out that rubber is to-day mainly obtained from plantations, wild rubber, which 30 years ago was the only source, representing only about 3 per cent. of the total world supply. Under the stimulus of the high prices obtaining during the early years of the century rubber planting was carried out at a rapid rate, especially after 1905, both by Europeans and Asiatics. The Asiatic proportion rose from about 20 per cent. of the total in 1910 to 35 per cent. in 1920 and to over 50 per cent. in 1930.

The total area under plantation rubber at the end of 1929, continued Dr. Rae, was between 6,600,000 acres and 7,200,000 acres, of which the area under native rubber in the Dutch East Indies is variously estimated at between 1,100,000 acres and 1,700,000 acres. The estimates of the area under Dutch native rubber are based on the exports of this rubber and on the opinions about its average yield per acre and about the proportion of its immature to its mature rubber. The remaining 5,500,000 acres consist of approximately 3,300,000 acres in estates owned by Europeans and Americans; 510,000 acres in Asiatic-owned estates over 100 acres and 1,630,000 acres in native holdings under 100 acres. About 80 per cent. of all the estate rubber trees are tappable; 90 per cent. of the native rubber in Malaya and Ceylon is tappable and probably less than 50 per cent. of the native rubber elsewhere is tappable. Owing to the drastic system of tapping pursued by the natives, a portion of their untapped areas must be regarded in the same light as bark reserves of estate rubber.

The total exports of rubber from producing countries were 94,000 tons in 1910, 167,000 tons in 1915, 353,000 tons in 1920, 518,000 tons in 1925, 861,000 tons in 1929, and will be about 820,000 tons in 1930. Under normal conditions of production, exports give a good approximation to output and the stock figures now published will usually indicate any significant divergence between output and export.

The net exports from the various producing countries during the years 1920, 1925, 1929 and 1930 are given in the following table (the 1930 figures are subject to adjustment when complete data are available):—

	1920	1925	1929	1930
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Malaya	181,000	210,000	455,000	443,000
Ceylon	39,000	46,000	80,000	77,000
Netherlands E. Indies	80,000	189,000	256,000	241,000
India	6,000	10,000	12,000	11,000
British N. Borneo	4,000	5,000	7,000	7,000
Sarawak	2,000	9,000	11,000	10,000
French Indo-China	3,000	6,000	9,000	7,500
Siam, etc.	1,000	4,000	5,000	4,500
Wild	37,000	39,000	26,000	19,000
Total	353,000	518,000	861,000	820,000

The actual *output* of rubber for the year 1929 distributed according to the nationality of producers was approximately as follows:—

	Tons	Per cent
British : U. K.	236,000	27·9
British : Local	69,000	8·1
Dutch	57,000	6·7
Other European	30,000	3·5
American	22,000	2·6
Asiatic Estate	64,000	7·6
Malayan Native	199,000	23·4
N.E.I. Native	108,000	12·8
Other Native	36,000	4·3
Wild	26,000	3·1
	847,000	100·0

During the last few years, resting, a better knowledge of the effects of various tapping systems, increased cultivation and conservation of surface soil have increased the yield and probably prolonged the productive life of the estate rubber tree. By far the most important development, however, has been the planting of high-yielding material by means of budgrafting; the area under budded rubber is unknown, but probably does not exceed 5 per cent. of the total planted area.

Owing to the low price of rubber many estates are now harvesting a restricted crop; more will restrict during 1931; but a considerable number may find it necessary to harvest a full crop. Dutch native output has declined largely owing to the disappearance of markets in the relatively

inaccessible districts and to lack of hired labour at the current prices, but will again increase when the price rises. The output of Malayan native rubber during 1930, for which so far there has always been a market, has been maintained at about the 1929 level, although during the last three months it has shown a tendency to fall off; any falling off will be due to depletion of bark reserves.

The absorption of rubber by manufacturers (i.e. the quantities of rubber they turn into rubber goods) was 85,000 tons in 1910, 150,000 tons in 1915, 310,000 tons in 1920, 560,000 tons in 1925, 790,000 tons (adjusted figure) in 1929, and will be approximately 705,000 tons in 1930.

The absorption by manufacturers in the United States is given monthly by the Rubber Manufacturers' Association of America; similar data are not available for other countries, but their absorption can be measured approximately by their net imports, adjusted in the case of the United Kingdom for variation in the stocks in public warehouses in London and Liverpool.

The absorption of the principal manufacturing countries for the years 1920, 1925, 1929 and 1930 (preliminary figures) are as follows:—

	1920	1925	1929	1930
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
United States	... 215,000	390,000	470,000	380,000
United Kingdom	... 24,000	30,000	72,000	74,000
France	... 16,000	34,000	62,000	67,000
Germany	... 13,000	34,000	49,000	46,000
Italy	... 6,000	11,000	16,000	15,000
Russia	... —	8,000	13,000	17,000
Belgium	... 3,000	3,000	9,000	11,000
Scandinavia	... 2,000	3,000	5,000	7,000
Canada	... 12,000	20,000	36,000	29,000
Japan	... 6,000	13,000	34,000	32,000
Australia	... 3,000	5,000	16,000	5,000
Other countries...	... 10,000	9,000	23,000	22,000
Total ...	310,000	560,000	805,000	705,000

For the years 1928 and 1929 a further adjustment (estimated roughly at 15,000 tons) is necessary to allow for the obvious variation in the stocks of crude rubber in the hands of manufacturers outside the United States.

The absorption of rubber has shown considerable fluctuation about its trend during the last twenty years which have probably been of greater amplitude than those shown by the real consumption of rubber. Stocks of manufactured goods, including the unused tyre mileage on automobiles, must, therefore, have shown considerable annual fluctuations during the last twenty years—a matter of considerable importance when considering stocks of crude rubber.

The data both for supplies and deliveries of crude rubber are reasonably complete and reliable, but the data giving the world stocks are very incomplete. Such data as exist, however, indicate that, under normal

conditions of production, stocks of crude rubber in producing countries and quantities afloat represent mainly working stocks and are not likely to show much fluctuation beyond that due to seasonal variations in output. The only important stocks in manufacturing countries are those in public warehouses in London and Liverpool and in the United States. The stocks in the hands of manufacturers in the United States have usually been between 60 and 80 per cent. of the total United States stocks. The stocks in London and Liverpool are the main reservoirs of immediately available rubber and have accordingly shown large fluctuations during the last twenty years.

The total world stocks, declared and undeclared, at any time must be considered in relation to the monthly world absorption at that time and the ratio of the former to the latter has varied from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 11 during the past two years and has shewn even greater fluctuation in the past. A total world stock equivalent to about six months' absorption is usually regarded as necessary for the smooth working of the industry.

TEA PROPAGANDA PLAN

The Ceylon Estates Proprietary Association received from the Ceylon Association in London last month a letter setting forth the progress made to obtain a plan of campaign for advertising tea in America. Their object is not the advertising of Ceylon tea in particular, but tea as tea, and their plans are being formed by, and on the advice of, the tea trade in the U.S.A. The Tea Association of the U.S.A., writes *The Home and Colonial Mail* has obtained expert advice from some of the largest advertising agencies in their country and these agencies are of the opinion that it would be impossible to formulate a plan of campaign for a large-scale advertising scheme without first making a comprehensive survey of the market. It is estimated that the cost of this survey may reach £1,500. As this cost has to be borne by the advertisers, the position at present is that 'if we (the Ceylon Association) desire to employ the greatest experts, we must accept their views, and pay for the survey they deem so essential. The question therefore arises whether (a) we are to abandon our intention of advertising on a large scale in the U.S.A. or (b) are prepared to divert the funds collected and collecting for the Lampard Scheme in 1931 to the purpose of a survey. It cannot be denied that a survey on the lines contemplated would prove of enormous value. Many points would be brought out of which we are now ignorant. The foundations would be laid soundly for future propositions. Moreover, there would still be left over a proportion of the Lampard Scheme funds, to be applied as at present in limited advertising. It must not be supposed that we have lost sight of the advantages of advertising tea in countries other than the U.S.A., and if a Cess is imposed, this side of the question will be gone into fully. Meanwhile, we are concentrating upon America, as in that way we get the largest measure of agreement, and also prepare to operate in the largest potential market.'

TEA'S SERIOUS POSITION

The developments of the past few weeks should impress on all tea-producing interests the stark necessity for accepting and whole-heartedly working the restriction agreement for the present year. Any hopes of a rally in consumption have been dispelled and the fact has to be faced that, as a result of the world-wide depression and the reduced purchasing capacity of the masses, the consumption of tea is more likely to recede than advance and the best that can be expected is that it will merely stagnate. The seriousness of the position is reflected in the January stock figure, which stood at 274 million lbs. for the London warehouses as compared with 267 million lbs. on the corresponding date in 1930. In addition to this tremendous glut of tea on the London market, the visible supplies are excessive. If there is any question as to the beneficial effects of the 1930 restriction, one has only to visualize what the position would have been if there had been an extra 42 million lbs. of tea from India and an additional 11 million lbs. from Ceylon, apart altogether from greatly increased Dutch supplies. The safety-valve of restriction operated throughout last year, but even so the beginning of the present year found the situation extremely serious. The weakening of the statistical position since then has depressed prices gradually and steadily, both in London and in Colombo. Ceylon not only suffers from the price-lowering effects of the piling up of the U. K. stock and the slackening off in consumption, but her position is peculiarly unfortunate because of the difficulties of trading with Australia and New Zealand. Shippers find it almost impossible to negotiate bills on these countries and business has practically been at a standstill except where covered by letters of credit on London, which, of course, are not easy to secure. Another point is that the Australian market has completely changed on account of the money shortage, for whereas the demand was formerly for good and medium Ceylon teas, it has completely switched over to low, medium and common teas. Taking the export figures, it is seen that October shipments of Ceylon tea to Australia and New Zealand were three-quarters of a million lbs. behind those of the previous October. The November exports were 400,000 lbs. behind and the December shipments showed a decrease of a million lbs. as compared with December, 1929. Ceylon's misfortune has been Java's gain, for Java has large supplies of the lower grade descriptions required at cheaper prices and is getting the bulk of the business. Ceylon's tea trade with Australasia is fast dwindling, and with the best will in the world it is difficult to entertain any hopes of an early recovery in this quarter. The situation is thoroughly disquieting and all the elements that may shape into a serious slump are present. Even with small supplies and relatively good quality at the local auctions, many lots have been withdrawn without bids and difficulty has been experienced in obtaining satisfactory offers. The rush months are ahead and it is even possible that up-country teas will sell at un-remunerative rates when their quality tails off. A review of the situation from every aspect points to the absolute necessity of restriction if a debacle is to be prevented. Absolute, unanimous and loyal support is required from every tea producer. The closest attention is called for in regard to finer plucking, the elimination of stalk and the manufacture of good black, leaf tea. We devoutly hope that Ceylon will have the vision and foresight to establish a advertising cess. A drive for markets and continuous publicity are vital to the permanent prosperity of the industry, but the immediate crisis calls for the only one urgent and immediate line of action. Restriction is the only course which can prevent the tea industry from being precipitated into a slump which may prove as disastrous as the

one which occurred in 1920. As a suggestion, we would call upon the L.C.P.A. to study the situation and remind their members of the seriousness of the position, urging them to give restriction their loyal support. We are prompted to mention the Low-Country Products Association because of the desirability that every relevant association and agency should agitate for the adoption of restriction by tea producers. Every effort should be made to convince producers of the urgency of adopting restriction and of the serious consequences which will ensue if the scheme is allowed to lapse. Without hesitation we are certain that restriction is the only possible salvation at this critical stage for the one staple industry of Ceylon which has so far succeeded in remaining on a paying basis.

—Reprinted from the *Times of Ceylon*.

12,000 MILES AIR AND OCEAN FREIGHT SERVICE

COMBINATION OF AIRWAYS AND STEAMSHIP LINES

Arrangements have just been completed between Imperial Airways, the Cunard Steamship Company, and the White Star Line, for the institution of a new combined high-speed air-ocean freight service which is at first to extend from New York via London to India. It is also hoped, in the near future, to arrange connections with the trans-American air-mail service, giving a 12,000 miles air-ocean-air service from San Francisco to India.

A parcel from the western seaboard of America will—on the institution of this through service—be flown 3,000 miles across the United States to New York. Here, twice a week, connections will be established with White Star and Cunard eastbound Royal Mail liners, such as the 'Olympic' or 'Aquitania.' After its 3,000 miles ocean passage in one of these vessels, the parcel will be transferred to an Armstrong-Siddeley air-liner of Imperial Airways for its journey above Europe to Athens. Then, after an aerial voyage above the Mediterranean in a large 3-engined Short Jupiter flying boat, the parcel will be transferred again to a big De Havilland-Jupiter land-plane for its final stages across the Iraq desert to Bagdad, the Persian Gulf and India. By this new super-speed air and ocean route a parcel will be conveyed from San Francisco to India in not more than 14 days, while the time of transit from New York to India will be only 11 days.

A valuable extension of this air-ocean freight service will be inaugurated early next year when the Imperial Airways England-South Africa route is instituted. This will open up not only an accelerated service to South Africa but will show a very great saving in the time of transit of urgent parcels from the entire American continent, north and south, to the rapidly developing British possessions along the east coast of Africa. The following table shows clearly the time that will be saved by this new combined service, as compared with existing surface transport by parcel post:—

Route.	Air and Ocean.	By surface transport.
New York—Cairo	... ... 10 days	21-23 days
New York—Baghdad	... ... 11 "	36-42 "
New York—Karachi	... ... 14 "	28 "
New York—Nairobi	... ... 10 "	32-40 "
New York—Cape Town...	... ... 18 "	28-32 "

It is expected that an extensive use of this new service will be made by those consigning samples, specie, jewellery, spare parts, and urgent documents of all kinds. It is estimated that in the case of specie, or bonds, the saving of interest alone, owing to the rapidity of this mode of transit, will be more than sufficient to pay the special express charges involved.

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RUBBER CONSUMPTION

In their annual review of the rubber market, Messrs. S. Figgis and Company, rubber brokers, state that total shipments during 1930 were 819,000 tons (including latex), compared with 855,600 tons in 1929. The largest reduction was in Dutch native rubber, shipments of which fell from 108,000 tons of dry rubber in 1929 to 87,000 tons. According to Messrs. Figgis, trees continued to respond even more than was anticipated to manuring, better cultivation, and resting. Total consumption of all kinds of rubber is stated by this authority to have been 702,000 tons, against 795,000 tons. This decline is wholly accounted for by the smaller U.S. consumption, which amounted to 377,000 tons, against 470,000 tons. England was the only big consuming country to show an increase, the figure being 74,000 tons, against 72,000 tons. According to the review, reclaimed rubber continued to be used even with the low price for plantation rubber, though the consumption percentage in relation to crude declined from 48½ per cent. in 1929 to 41 per cent. in 1930. This reduction of 7½ per cent. took place chiefly during the last six months of the year. In looking towards the future production and consumption of rubber, Messrs. Figgis prefer not to make any estimates for 1931. The potential output of rubber is at present considerably larger than the world can absorb. The price has fallen below the cost on many estates; a few can produce rubber to show very little loss (if any) in selling it at 4d. per pound in London, but there are many whose costs are in the region of 6d. per pound. It must be more economical for these to produce less. So long, therefore, as the price keeps below a certain level there should be less rubber coming. According to the figures of 1930, a reduction of 120,000 tons per annum in the shipments is needed before consumption is balanced with production. There is no doubt that during the spring preparations will be seen in America for the summer trade, and a bigger output of tyres. One can hardly expect a great increase in new cars in U.S.A., but it should be a good replacement year for tyres. As regards the rest of the world, not much change is expected; it is difficult to see any quick improvement in trade at the moment, but if our Government would show signs of any real economy, trade here in the United Kingdom would respond, and it would give a greater incentive to enterprise than anything else.

—*The Home and Colonial Mail,*

A YARN OF THE RUBBER SLUMP

[We have been unable to trace the authorship of the following verses which have been sent us from the East.—EDITOR, *J.R.J.*]

'Twas on the road 'twixt Ipoh town
And Tanjong Rambutan
That I found alone on the third mile-stone
An elderly Planting man.

His clothes were patchy, his boots were burst,
His manner was far from gay,
And I heard him drone on that wayside stone
The following doleful lay :—

'Oh I'm a P.D. and an S.D., too,
And an Office Clerk (from date),
The Head K.G. and Conductors three
Of Jim Jam Rubber Estate.'

And he rolled his eyes, and gnashed his teeth,
Until I really thought
That the sun of a gun had a touch of the sun,
And so I made retort :—

'Oh, elderly Planter, it's little I know
(Though possibly I'm a dunce)
Of a rubber estate, but please relate
How you can be all at once :—

'A Manager bold and Assistant, too,
And an Office Clerk (from date),
Conductors three, and the Head K.G.,
Of Jim Jam Rubber Estate ?'

From a hand-bag near he produced some beer
(A trick all Planters know),
And drank with zest, then off his chest
Got the following tale of woe :—

'Twas in the Spring of 'eighteen last,
A date not far remote,
I was left at large as the man in charge
Of a thousand-acre Tote.

'There was me and the Clerk and the young S.D.,
And the Head K.G. to swell
The Labour Force, and then, of course,
Field Kranis' three as well

'I ran that place for a year or two,
'Twas simple as play to me,
But I shouted "Shame!" when the dam slump came,
And they sacked the young S.D.

' The three conductors were next to go,
 And I worked from morn till dark,
 For my ' Native Staff ' (I could almost laugh)
 Was the blessed Office Clerk.

' Next the Head K.G. and the Labour Force
 Proceeded to fade away,
 Leaving me and that spark of an Office Clerk
 On the monthly list of pay

' Now I thought the world of that Office Clerk
 Till the question arose one day
 As to who should go, then believe me, bo,
 I sacked him without delay.

' I've cut the Club and Women and Wine,
 (And the Office Clerk left last night)
 Now I sit alone on this blessed stone,
 Whilst truthfully I recite :—

" " Oh, I'm a P.D., and an S.D., too,
 And an Office Clerk (from date),
 The Head K.G. and Conductor three,
 Of Jim Jam Rubber Estate." "

EMPIRE EXHIBITION

Two great Empire Exhibitions are now rapidly approaching—the British Industries Fair at Olympia this month, and the British Empire Exhibition at Buenos Aires, which opens in March.

The Exhibition at Buenos Aires will display to South America the British Empire in miniature. We believe that it will be twice the size of any previous exhibition staged by Britain at such a distance from the Mother Country. The exhibits of almost every industry will be on show. Some 600 British Empire firms will be represented and the floor space of the Exhibition approximates 300,000 square feet, roughly three times the area of the huge main floor of Olympia, London.

Canada is preparing a special Pavilion in which a large number of Canadian firms will co-operate with the Department of Trade and Commerce in making a thoroughly characteristic scenic and trade display. Suitable literature is to be presented showing South American buyers what Canada has to offer. Recently advices from Argentina have reflected a definite recovery there and the British and Canadian exhibits will be on view at a time singularly favourable to the stimulation of sales in Argentina and other parts of Latin-America. * * * *

That the Exhibition will have a wonderful appeal to South American visitors is a foregone conclusion. Not only is the Canadian Pavilion alone a striking and appealing exhibit, but the Mother Country is incorporating features which are bound to prove a huge attraction. For instance, the

grounds in which the Exhibition is to be held are being altered so that they will harmonize with the character of the exhibits and lend a fitting atmosphere. Replicas of old buildings in English counties, including a Gloucestershire manor house with mullioned windows and a frontage of grey masonry, are being built up, giving interesting and artistic visions of ancient English buildings and old Tudor brickwork. The manor house mentioned will contain a complete range of British railway material. Another building will be given over to road transport, whilst behind the representation of a portion of Hampton Court Palace will be found some splendid exhibits of British machinery. Most of the latter will be in actual operation. The railways are using working models and diagrams. The motor car section will be highly important, occupying a special Pavilion and giving one of the very best displays of automobiles ever staged overseas by British manufacturers. Many other practical trade features will reveal to South America what the Empire produces and the high standards of quality, workmanship and efficiency inevitably associated with Empire products. Typewriters, pottery, leather goods, and hundreds of other exhibits will be there in profusion.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

INDIAN TEA CESS COMMITTEE

We are very glad to announce that Mr. F. E. James, our Political Member, had returned to Madras from Calcutta where he was lying seriously ill for some weeks past. It is not generally known that Mr. James' illness was of a severely critical nature and we congratulate him on having sufficiently recovered to proceed home for further treatment. Mr. James sailed for Europe per s.s. *Aquileja* leaving Bombay on 24th instant and we are sure our readers will wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

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The Assistant Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., and Editor, *The Planters' Chronicle*, is proceeding to Munnar, High Range, at the end of this month to visit a Tea Estate, and, after a stay there for about a fortnight, he will return to Madras and resume his duties.

The Active Member for Tea, Mr. J. S. B. Wallace, informs us that he has been requested by the Acting Commissioner of the Indian Tea Cess Committee to furnish him with a list of local growers in South India, from whom supplies of tea would always be available for bazaar dealers.

Will local growers who wish to have their names placed on the I.T.C.C. list, therefore send full particulars as follows to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., P. O. Box 155, Madras, who will then pass them on to the proper authority.

Particulars required :—

- (a) Name of Estate or Company and postal address.
- (b) Nearest Railway Station.
- (c) Method of packing (packets or bulk). If in bulk size of chest.
- (d) An indication of the price at which they are prepared to sell the teas.

DISTRICT NOTES

ANAMALLAIS

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held at the Anamallai Club, on Wednesday, February 11, 1931 at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. J. E. Sampson (*Chairman*), J. H. Ireland Jones, J. Hatton Robinson, A. W. F. Mills, H. Gerry, C. F. Clark, C. B. Maggs, P. E. Achard, J. C. Blackham, G. M. Oakes, B. D. Darkin, R. N. Champion Jones, C. E. Dennys, G. Stevens, H. S. Collett, H. H. Stuart, F. J. B. Diaper, R. Bentley, E. N. House, W. H. Martin, H. de V. Gosselin, G. A. LeMesurier, A. R. Jack, A. Foote, C. L. Napier, A. de Stroumillo, E. Hardy, J. L. H. Williams, E. A. Stone, T. Davenport, E. Johnson, E. V. Hammond, C. W. Mayow, J. McBride, J. H. Paterson, A. C. Cotton and G. B. Reade (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor :

Mr. S. H. Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Collector of Coimbatore.

The Notice calling the meeting was taken as read.

The Chairman then spoke as follows :—

'GENTLEMEN,

Before proceeding with the business for which this meeting has been called, I would ask you to rise for a moment as a last tribute to one who was undoubtedly one of the pioneers of this District.

The late Mrs. E. Walsh arrived at what is now Waverly Estate in 1873, as a Bride, that estate having been opened some three years previously.

In these days of comparative civilization it is difficult for us to realize the difficulties and inconveniences to be experienced at that period—no Ghaut Road, few supplies, irregular tapal, and no neighbours—we can, however, remind ourselves of the example set by this lady, and of her wonderful outlook on life maintained to the last.

As has been pointed out to me by her sister, Mrs. Walsh remained a Pioneer to the end, being the first lady to be laid to rest in our Cemetery.

I feel sure that it will meet with your approval that our Honorary Secretary shall convey to Mrs. Walsh's family the heartfelt sympathy of all Members of this Association.'

The resolution was passed in silence—all standing.

The Chairman then extended a welcome to Mr. S. H. Slater on his first visit to the Anamallais.

Confirmation of the Minutes.—The minutes of the following Extraordinary General Meeting were confirmed *nem con* with the exception of the confirmation of the alteration of Articles of Association Nos. 4, 9, 10 and 11, which were referred back till later in the meeting :—

(a) Extraordinary General Meeting held on October 22, 1930.

The minutes of the following Committee Meetings were confirmed *nem con* :—

(a) Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on November 26, 1930.

(b) " " " " " " " " , January 19, 1931.

Election of new Members.—The following new Members were proposed and duly elected :—

Mr. L. V. Hayman proposed by Mr. R. Bentley, seconded by J. McBride.

" C. W. Hickson .. Mr. J. Hatton Robinson, seconded by the Chairman.

" V. E. Sewell .. Mr. B. D. Darkin, seconded by Mr. P. E. Achard.

Game Association.—Read letter No. 6003/29-C1 dated October 28, 1930, from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras Presidency.

The meeting was of the opinion that some form of game protection was highly desirable.

Mr. C. B. Maggs proposed that a Game Association, if formed, be kept quite separate from the present Fishing Association.

Mr. A. C. Cotton proposed and Mr. G. B. Reade seconded :—

'That the Collector and District Forest Officer be approached, as suggested in the letter of the Chief Conservator of Forests, dated October 28, 1930, to assist in the formation of a local Game Association on the following lines :—

(1) That the Game Association be formed as a department of the Anamallai Planters' Association.

(2) That license be issued through the Anamallai Planters' Association.

(3) That the area of the 'grass hills' North West of the Cornil Ar River be declared a game sanctuary and closed to all shooting.

(4) That license fees be fixed at Rs. 20 a year for residents and Rs. 100 a year for visitors.

(5) That the District Forest Officer be asked to depute a Forest guard as Game Warden, the Anamallai Planters' Association contributing towards the cost, half the amount of all license fees collected.

(6) That the Game Warden be posted by the District Forest Officer to Akkamalai Estate.

(7) That the Anamallai Planters' Association is unable to accept any financial liability beyond collection of license fees.'

After considerable discussion, the following amendment proposed by Mr. E. N. House and seconded by Mr. H. S. Collett, was put to the meeting and duly carried with one Dissident.

'That the Forest Department be asked to work in conjunction with the Anamallai Planters' Association over game matters, and that the issuing of licenses be handed over to the Association. Fees to be refunded to the District Forest Officer.'

The Anamallai Planters' Association suggests that license fees be doubled for residents, and raised to Rs. 50 for visitors.'

Confirmation of the alteration of Articles of Association Nos. 4(a), 9, 10 and 11 of the Anamallai Planters' Association as passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on October 22, 1930.

The confirmation of the alteration of the Articles of Association Nos. 4(a), 9, 10 and 11 of the Anamallai Planters' Association was

Carried unanimously.

Foreign Liquor License.—Some Members of the Association expressed the opinion that too much foreign liquor was being sold in the District.

The general opinion of the meeting was that no change need be made at the moment, but the Committee was asked to go into the whole question, and see if any reduction in the sale of liquor could be arranged, should they think it desirable.

A. P. A. Chatram at Mile 14/6.—The Honorary Secretary read out the half-yearly report on the Chatram by Dr. Horrocks which was as follows :—

'I visited the Chatram officially on December 18, 1930, and found that the buildings required repairing where several bamboo mats had perished. These repairs should be undertaken about April just before the monsoon.'

There were admitted 16 men and 6 women a total of 22 for the half-year. Of these 4 males and 2 females were paupers. 16 were traced to the following estates :—Gajamudi 6, Thonimudi 2, Oosimullai 2, six other estates one each. One man age 26

died, the day after he was picked up at mile 15·4. He was a pauper. No dead body was found on the ghaut. Conditions were not bad enough to demand the services of the patrol cart.

The numbers for the year compare favourably with 1929-30 with one death as against 144 with 2 deaths (children). This fall corresponds with the lower sickness and death rate on the estates for the year 1930.'

The meeting instructed the Honorary Secretary to pass Dr. Horrocks a vote of thanks on their behalf for the attention he had given to the Chatram, and to pay him the usual travelling allowance.

Mr. A. C. Cotton raised the question of whether it was worth keeping on the Chatram, in view of the general decrease of sickness in the District.

The meeting requested the Committee to go further into the matter, with a view to ascertaining whether it is to the Association's benefit to continue the work of the Chatram, the Committee's opinion being placed before the following General Meeting.

Election of a Member to the General Committee of the U.P.A.S.I.—Mr. E. Johnson was unanimously elected in place of Mr. T. Davenport, who was proceeding on leave.

Election of European Association Representative.—Mr. A. W. F. Mills was unanimously elected in place of Mr. T. Davenport.

U.P.A.S.I. Sports Club.—Read letter from the Honorary Secretary of the South Trivancore Planters' Association.

The meeting were of opinion that their previous resolution be adhered to until after the next Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I.

Cooly Rates of Pay, Concessions, and Advances.—This subject came up for discussion, but the meeting was of opinion that the time available was too short, and instructed the Honorary Secretary to call another Extraordinary General Meeting for February 25, 1931, to deal with the matter.

Valparai Township.—The Chairman asked the meeting to sanction the opening of a separate 'Valparai Township' Bank a/c to be operated on by the Honorary Secretary, Valparai Township Committee, as it would facilitate the working of the Township.

Carried nem con.

CORRESPONDENCE

Rates of Cooly Rice Issue.—Letter, dated February 3, 1931, from Mr. A. C. Cotton was read and recorded.

Reduction of Salaries of Employees of the U.P.A.S.I.—Letter, dated December 22, 1930, from Mr. A. C. Cotton was read and recorded.

In this connection the following resolution was proposed by Mr. A. C. Cotton and seconded by Mr. J. H. Ireland-Jones :—

'That this Association, whilst welcoming all criticisms of the U.P.A.S.I. from Members of District Associations, considers that no good can arise from publishing in the public press or *Planters' Chronicle* such letters and speeches, as have lately appeared in the *Madras Mail*, dealing with the pay of the employees of the Parent Association, and feel that such action, far from doing good, only tends to antagonize the employees, and brings the U.P.A.S.I. into ridicule with the general public.'

Carried.

Election of Chairman.—Mr. E. Johnson was elected as Chairman in place of Mr. J. E. Sampson, who resigned as he was about to proceed on leave.

In this connection Mr. E. Johnson moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman for the immense amount of work he had done on behalf of the Association in past years.

Carried with acclamation.

Mr. H. de. V. Gosselin proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. T. Davenport for all the work he had done on behalf of the Association in the past.

Carried with acclamation.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

(Sd.) G. B. READE,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) J. E. SAMPSON
Chairman,

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EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING DECEMBER, 1930

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia	
<i>Coffee—</i>										
Madras	...	379	...	...	...	44	...	...	...
Calicut	...	87	...	648	...	76	...	...	60
Mangalore	...	123	...	938	3,207	871	...	...	...
Tellicherry	162	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay	104	...	...	...
Total	...	589	...	1,748	3,207	1,095	...	...	60
Previously	...	6,193	...	62,253	49,253	1,256	33	401	1,889	
Total cwt. since 1-1-30.	127,977	...	64,001	52,460	2,351	33	401	1,949		
<i>Rubber—</i>										
Calicut	15,545	79,772	202,412	...	...	...	...
Cochin	149,655	634,625	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	37,122	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	216,868	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	13,161	71,831	281,995	...	...	...	3,360	
Total	...	28,605	555,248	1,119,023	...	...	...	44,800	3,360
Previously	...	302,824	5,657,750	7,613,595	80,501	1,004	...	179,200	9,308	
Total lbs. since 1-1-30.	15,595,518	...	331,429	6,212,998	8,732,618	80,801	1,004	...	224,000	
<i>Tea—</i>										
Madras	...	1,552	...	178	...	...	...	...	...
Calicut	...	57,861	2,891	1,498,555	550	480	600	21,975	200	
Cochin	...	81,535	45,377	1,039,582	220	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	12,468	1,224	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	23,484	1,874,529	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	1,519	3,297	24,055	...	...	...	...
Total	...	142,467	275,049	4,449,367	770	1,704	600	21,975	200	
Previously	...	520,120	3,743,375	28,764,616	16,649	4,606	1,010	195,708	3,822	
Total lbs. since 1-4-30.	38,143,038	...	662,587	4,018,424	33,213,983	17,419	6,310	1,610	218,683	4,022

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Average prices obtained for tea.					
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending Feb. 5, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 5, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 5, 1930		
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, February 5, 1931)			N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Peria Karamalai	236	1 2½	S. India.	1 0·67	1 1·70	1 2·00		
Gajam Mudi	115	1 2½	Ceylon...	a 1 0·82	b 1 2·04	c 1 1·34		
*Mukotti Mudi	140	1 2	Java ...	1 3·37	1 4·89	1 5·60		
Stanmore	144	1 0½	Sumatra.	0 9·23	0 10·30	0 9·21		
*Sholayar	105	1 0½	Nyassa-land	0 10·72	0 11·02	0 10·48		
(a) Anamallais—			Total..	d 1 0·88	e 1 2·10	f 1 2·31		
Mount	76	1 3						
Fairfield	67	1 3						
Cheenthalaar	158	1 0½						
Munja Mallay	137	1 0½						
Kolie Kanum	98	1 0½						
Twyford and Ashley Estates :—								
White Hills	135	1 0						
(b) Central Travancore—								
Yellapatty	140	1 4½	(B) COFFEE.—					
Gundumallay	95	1 4½	London Prices (Seven days ending February 4, 1931)					
Chokanaad	22	1 3½						
Thenmallay	90	1 3½						
Sevenmallay	97	1 2½						
Chundavurrai	135	1 2½	District	Bags	s. d.	Grades		
(c) Kanan Devans—								
Hirvathi.	53	81 10						
Nilgiris—								
Tutta-polium.	21	91 11						
(d) Nilgiri—								
*Prospect	180	1 5½	(C) RUBBER.—					
Nonsuch	117	1 4½	The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, February 24, 1931 was 3½d.					
Parkside	98	1 4½	London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, February 21, 1931, were 82,111 tons, an increase of 679 tons on February 14, 1931, inventory.					
*Brooklands	95	1 4½	Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, February 21, 1931, were 44,555 tons, an increase of 876 tons on February 14, 1931, inventory.					
Woodlands	182	1 3½						
Pykara Falls	43	1 3						
Ibex Lodge	112	1 2½						
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad—								
Seaforth	93	1 0½						

*Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, February 26, 1931

Planting.—*Raw Rubber* still remains quoting at about 3½d. and there was little change in share values. *Sterling Rubber Scrips* came in for some attention without much business to report. *Teas*, on the other hand, were slightly better and in local scrips *Devasholas*, *Peermades* and *Periasholas* had markings: a parcel of *Nonsuch* offered at Rs. 25 had no takers, and sellers still predominate in most shares.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 4 0	- 1½d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 10 9	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 11 9	- 1s. 9d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 1½	- 1½d.
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 0	...
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 0	- 3d.
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	+ 1s.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 16 0	- 2s.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 15 0	- 1s. 3d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	...	12½
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	7
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24½
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	37
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	8
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	4	4½
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	21	22
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	28	30
" (Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	21	22
Periasholas Rs. 10	1½	2
Periyars Rs. 10	4	5
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	6	7
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	94	96
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	...	16

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association on February 17, 1931).

TEA.—The quantity offered at to-day's auction amounted to 2,054,967 lbs. Quality was well maintained and improvement was shown in some invoices. There was a fair demand, with prices for best sorts firm, and all others showing an easier tendency. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA.** Quality was good but selection rather limited. Recent rates were maintained. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality was attractive and some second invoices were better. Prices for Broken grades were fully firm but leaf teas came to an

easier market. MEDIUM GROWN. Quality was useful but demand was irregular and there were many withdrawals. LOW GROWN. Demand was good at a decline of about 1 to 3 cents. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. Good sorts steady, all others much easier.

South Indian Teas in Auction of February 10, 1931, obtained the following prices :-

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurral ...	12,076	1·22
Sothuparai ...	10,172	1·08
Welbeck ...	2,272	1·07
Kanniamallay ...	23,167	1·02
Corneillon ...	2,240	70

RUBBER.—About 252 tons were offered at to-day's Auction on February 12, 1931. A good demand ruled for all grades and there was a slight improvement in prices. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet realized 16½ cents bid and a few stand-out lots sold at 17 cents showing an improvement of a half cent on last week's prices. Fair quality Sheet was well supported and showed a similar improvement while other qualities were fully steady. Contract Crepe was taken out at 16 cents bid and one or two stand-out lots realized 16½ cents—showing an advance of a half cent on previous rates. Off and Mottled sorts met with good competition and showed a similar advance. There was a strong demand for all grades of Scrap Crepe and these may be quoted a half cent dearer, inferior earth sorts being about one cent dearer. Enquiry for Scraps fell away and the market for best sorts dropped 1½ cents but other grades sold at unchanged rates.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

February 8, 1931 to February 21, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	... 82·13	82·13		24. Coonoor ...	... 46·42	46·42	
2. Kalthuritty.	... 119·39	119·39		25. Kotagiri ...	... 63·73	63·73	
3. Kallar Bdge.	... 152·08	152·08		26. Ootacamund.	... 57·01	57·01	
4. Koney ...	... 123·40	123·40		27. Yercaud ...	... 65·20	65·20	
5. Pattanapura.	... 111·58	111·58		28. Mango Range ...	... 111·87	111·87	
6. M'kayam ...	... 88·35	88·35		29. Devala ...	... 92·77	92·77	
6a Peravanthan.	... 193·64	193·64		30. Devarshola.	... 75·68	75·68	
7. Peermade ...	... 198·53	198·53		31. CALICOR ...	... 115·32	115·32	
8. Twyford ...	... 241·09	241·09		32. Kuttiyadi ...	... 131·86	131·86	
9. V'periyar ...	... 95·83	95·83		33. Vayltri ...	... 155·15	155·15	
10. Kalaar ...	... 220·14	220·14		34. Manantoddi.	... 102·38	102·38	
11. Chittuvurrai ...	... 54·37	54·37		35. Billigiris ...	... 83·80	83·80	
12. Bodr' KANUR	... 26·76	26·76		36. Sidupur ...	... 32·75	32·75	
13. COCHIN ...	... 113·77	113·77		37. Polibetta ...	... 76·42	76·42	
14. Mooply ...	... 140·25	140·25		38. Somwarpett.	... ...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	... 122·02	122·02		39. Saklaspur ...	... ...	...
16. Mudis ...	... 187·42	187·42		40. Kadamanie ...	... 230·07	230·07	
17. POLLACHIE ...	... 47·06	47·06		41. Ballupete ...	... ...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	... 122·44	122·44		42. Balehonnur ...	... 71·31	71·31	
19. Karapara ...	... 154·06	154·06		43. Merthi subgey.	... 110·96	110·96	
20. Pullengode..	... 128·45	128·45		44. Kelagur ...	... 107·36	107·36	
21. Nilambur ...	... 98·49	98·49		45. Durgabettta.	... 101·99	101·99	
22. Naduvattam ...	... 125·73	125·73		46. MANGALORE ...	... 136·20	136·20	
23. Nilgiri Peak.	... 122·97	122·97		47. MADRAS ...	... 68·72	68·72	

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 6]

March 14, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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CURRENT TOPICS

Since our last number was issued, the Hon'ble Sir George Schuster, Finance Member of the Executive Council of the Government of India, has made his budget announcement for 1931-32, and *The Budget* extremely unpleasant reading it must be to the working planter and his subordinate staff, on estates in British India. Not only is it proposed to increase all import duties by 5 or 10 per cent, which will add to the cost of living, at a time when there is already great depression in the planting industry, but very considerable increases are proposed in the rates of income-tax. The present rate of tax on incomes between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 4,999 per annum is 5 pies in the rupee, which it is proposed to raise to 9 pies. The present rates on incomes between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 39,999 vary from 6 to 16 pies and it is proposed to increase these to rates varying from 11 to 22 pies; any income over Rs. 40,000 per annum to pay 25 pies in the rupee. The lowering of the amount assessable to super-tax from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 30,000 is not a matter which will concern many planters. The majority will however, to some extent, be affected by the proposed increase, if carried out, in duty on liquor. The proposal being that the rates of increase in duty, per case, be for beer Rs. 2-4-0, for whiskey Rs. 9-14-5, for gin Rs. 8-7-0.

A more satisfactory piece of news was that of the passing of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, by the Legislative Council on March 4. Under the provisions of this Bill the levy of all *Abolition of Tolls*, existing at the time of the commencement of the Act, will be abolished throughout the Madras Presidency, although Government reserve the right to levy tolls in respect to any road

or bridge, which the local Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, declare to have been made, improved or repaired after the commencement of the Act, either wholly or partly at their expense.

The tax on motor cars, not used for hire, in future will not, as previously, be according to seating capacity but on weight of the unladen car. The schedule of half-yearly rates of tax being for a car weighing less than 12 cwts. Rs. 30, between 12 cwts. and 1 ton Rs. 45, between 1 ton and 30 cwts. Rs. 50, between 30 cwts. and 2 tons Rs. 65, more than 2 tons Rs. 90. The ordinary touring car will cost about Rs. 15 more than in the past, but will be freed from the cost and annoyance of tolls.

In order that the European party in the Madras Legislative Council should not lose a vote during the discussion of the Budget, Mr.

Planting Member F. E. James, before going on leave resigned his seat. On March 2, His Excellency the Governor called on the Madras Planters' Constituency to elect a person to fill the vacancy on or before March 31, 1931, the Local Government appointing the following dates for the election. Nomination of candidates not later than Monday, March 9. Scrutiny of nominations Tuesday, March 10, and Poll, March 26. The only nomination was that of Mr. H. Waddington, who not having withdrawn within 24 hours, was duly declared elected. The intention is that he should resign directly this session of the Council is closed and that Mr. James be re-elected, so that on his return from leave he can resume his seat and proceed with the Malabar Tenancy Amendment Bill and the Madras Beggars Bill.

By the courtesy of Capt. H. F. Carey of Shanghai we have just received through Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. of Hankow one hundred pounds of fresh nuts of the Tung Oil Tree recently received from Szechuan together with a Note of information on the tree and its culture in China and Florida. A circular to District Associations has brought an unexpected number of replies asking for the seed for experimental purposes which we will accede to as far as possible. Although we understand that the seed received is *Aleurites Montana* the more valuable of the two species of *Aleurites*, we are not certain on this point until a reply to enquiries made is received from China.

On March 4, a cable reached the offices of the U.P.A.S.I. from the South Indian Association in London advising that the Restriction of tea crop scheme for 1931 had fallen through as conditions contained in the joint circular, issued by the Indian Tea Association, Ceylon Planters' Association and the South Indian Association in London, had not been fulfilled. Only 60 per cent of the producers in South India had supported the scheme.

Unsatisfactory news has also been received from the Rubber Growers' Association, London, that the Conference Lines still maintain that they are unable to agree to any reduction in the present rate of freight on Rubber. The reasons given in *Freight rate on Rubber* the present case is not that rubber can afford the rate but that the prevailing circumstances will not permit of any further reduction in the tariff rate.

Income Tax Appeal The Income Tax Officer of Coimbatore in assessing the Anamallay Tea Estates Limited for the year 1929-30, disallowed two items which represented expenditure incurred on 'Supplying', as in the view of the Income Tax Officer these expenses were of a capital nature. On appeal, the Assistant Commissioner, Western Range, agreed with the Income Tax Officer's view on this point. In view of the importance of the point to all rupee concerns in Southern India, the U.P.A.S.I. agreed to meet the cost of the Anamallay Tea Estates Limited, in petitioning the Commissioner of Income Tax, Madras, for leave to appeal to the High Court. Information has now been received from the Association's solicitors that the Commissioner of Income Tax has, under the powers vested in him, conceded the claims made by the Company and set aside the findings of the Income Tax Officers at Coimbatore. The Company will therefore withdraw its application for a reference to the High Court.

Indian Railways 1929-30 It is difficult to extract much of interest from the voluminous statistics which appear on the Report of the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1929-30, but here and there an interesting item is to be found. For instance the average miles a first class passenger was carried was 153·7; a third class one 35·8. The average rate charged per mile was first class 16·2 pies and third class 3·02. The average miles one ton of goods was carried was 246·4 at a rate of 6·14 pies per mile. During the year under report only six passengers lost their lives owing to accidents to trains, whereas of persons neither passengers nor railways servants, 2,010 were killed while trespassing on the line.

Ourselves As mentioned in our last issue, Mr. E. L. Hill, the Editor of the paper, is absent on leave in the Kanen Devans; it has therefore been found impossible to include in this number the usual Editorial.

-: o :-

THE OVERPRODUCTION OF COFFEE IN BRAZIL

A FAUCHÉRE

Public opinion would appear to have been particularly impressed by the coffee crisis that has, at the time of writing, lasted some eighteen months. From what has been printed on the subject one would imagine that the hardships to which planters have been subjected since the end of 1928 were the first that they have experienced. Nothing could be further from the truth, and the writer well remembers, when on a visit to the coffee-producing States of Brazil in 1902, that planters, even at that distant date, were loud in their complaints about the low prices paid for their crops. At that time coffee was worth something less than 50 francs the 50 kilogs. at Havre. Subsequently prices fell even lower, as in 1907 or 1908 quotations were under 40 francs the 50 kilogs.

It was then that the State of San Paolo decided to intervene in an effort to remedy the crisis which was growing steadily worse. The operation

undertaken is known as *valorization*. It has been undertaken three times since then. The first agreement was signed at Taubaté between the States of Rio de Janeiro, San Paolo and Minas Geraes. At the same time that measures were taken to influence prices, the State of San Paolo issued regulations to restrict the development of plantations. It is even fair to say that it was first sought to restrict plantations, before any attempt was made actually to increase the price of coffee.

The law prohibiting further coffee-planting was voted in 1902 immediately after the bumper crop of 1901-02. It was to remain in force for five years, but in 1907 it was extended for a further period of five years after which it was repealed. It imposed a tax of two contos, that is to say 2,000 milreis roughly speaking, on every six acres of new plantation. This law seemed to have answered its purpose, for up to 1910 there was no increase in the coffee plantations of San Paolo. In 1905 the records of the Department of Agriculture of San Paolo show that there were 688,845,410 coffee plants in that State. As from 1902 to 1912 no new plants were set out, the number of plants decreased somewhat and at the latter date it is doubtful if there were more than six hundred million plants in the State of San Paolo.

However, the plantations were considerably developed thereafter and statistics for 1929 show that there were in San Paolo no less than 1,180,983,000 coffee plants of which 190,000,000 were not yet in bearing. For the whole of Brazil the number of coffee plants is given as 2,290 million coffee plants as against 3,360 million, the number of plants cultivated in the entire world. It therefore appears that within the past twenty years Brazil has more than doubled the extent and importance of its coffee plantations. On the other hand it would seem that the new land planted in coffee gives higher returns per plant.

The new plantations laid out of recent years, especially in the State of Parana, give far higher returns than any previously obtained. The average production in this State reaches 200 arrobas, that is to say about 3,000 kilogs. per 1,000 plants, and certain plantations produce as much as 300 arrobas. The average production in San Paolo is only about 50 arrobas, or 750 kilogs. per 1,000 plants. At present the production of Parana amounts to about half a million sacks of coffee a year, and it will very soon be in a position to place a million sacks a year upon the market. The State of San Paolo saw the danger of such rapid overproduction and in 1929 it took the initiative of a Bill to restrict production, but this had to be abandoned because some of the coffee-producing States, including Parana, were not willing to apply its provisions.

The very rapid increase of coffee crops in Brazil after 1912 is evidently the natural consequence of the *Convenio de Taubaté* that had led to a great increase in the price of coffee on all the markets of the world. This agreement that had such great and far-reaching effects upon the production of coffee was one which on February 25, 1906, the representatives of the States of San Paolo, Rio de Janeiro and Minas Geraes signed at Taubaté ; it consisted of a valorization agreement in fifteen articles fixing a minimum price for coffee on the Brazilian market of from 50 to 60 francs gold per sack of 60 kilogs. for American grade coffee, the maximum price to be 70 francs. Article 6 provided for a tax of three francs per sack of coffee exported, this tax also being subject to increase or decrease. The three States undertook to impose sufficiently heavy taxation of new plantations

to prevent development. These surtaxes were to be collected by the Union and earmarked to meet interest and sinking fund charges on the capital necessary to the carrying out of the convention. At first, a loan of fifteen million pounds sterling had been contemplated. But the *Convenio de Taubaté* was bitterly attacked in Brazil on the ground that it involved the whole country in an operation that concerned only three States and a demand was made that similar operations be undertaken to valorize other Brazilian products. Finally, in order to avert a crisis that was assuming catastrophic proportions, the State of San Paolo was obliged to act alone. Coffee had sold as low as 30 francs the 50 kilogs. in February, 1906, and the price was still falling rapidly. The State of San Paolo began to buy coffee but it was soon overwhelmed by events and the Federal Government was obliged to come to its assistance to enable it to obtain credits large enough to finance an operation, the magnitude of which had exceeded all expectations. The total amount of money raised for this purpose was 30,500,000 pounds sterling. It was covered by loans floated in London, Paris, New York and Berlin. It made it possible to withdraw eight million sacks of coffee from the market which were warehoused in Europe and in the United States. For reasons that are not clear, the effect of this initial valorization was not immediate and the coffee crisis grew worse in 1907 and 1908 and lasted till 1909. But from then onwards prices rose and remained remunerative until 1917. The first revalorization operation was entirely successful and the loans were repaid in full.

In 1917 the coffee trade, hampered by the War, experienced another crisis. The fall in prices became alarming and again San Paolo decided to intervene to keep prices up. As it could not obtain money on the markets of the countries at war, it sought the co-operation of the Federal treasury. On August 28, 1917, the Brazilian Congress authorized an issue of 110,000 contos of Reis that enabled San Paolo to withdraw more than three million sacks of coffee from the market, or about 185,000 tons. The effect was immediate. Intervention by the Government at a time when crops had suffered from bad weather sent prices sky-high and in 1919 they reached a level hitherto unheard of. The operation had resulted in large financial gains for San Paolo and for the Federal Government.

In 1921 there was a new break in coffee prices and again an intervention of San Paolo supported by the other coffee-producing States, by the Federal Government and finally by London which loaned four million pounds sterling. Three million sacks of coffee were withdrawn from the market and prices again rose almost without interruption until 1928. Once more the operation turned out to the advantage of San Paolo.

Unfortunately, there is another side to the picture. State intervention in support of the coffee market—on which the prosperity of the country depends—is perfectly comprehensible although some people look upon it as economic heresy, but in such matters it is supremely difficult to preserve a proper perspective. The Institute for the Defence of Coffee, a semi-private semi-public institution was organized to carry on the work of valorization. It controls and has controlled for the past few years, the valorization operations, and it seems to seek unduly high prices. There exist in San Paolo old plantations where production costs are excessive and it would seem that the policy of the Institute has been to maintain prices at such a level that even plantations that are partially worked out shall

continue to show profits. In these circumstances, as the measures to restrict plantation were not always observed, the inevitable has happened, not only in Brazil but in many other countries.

It may be admitted that the season of 1927/1928 was favoured by exceptional weather conditions, but the coffee crop was so far in excess of previous crops that one is obliged to attribute it in some measure to the general and tremendous increase of plantations of the last few years. From 1920 to 1927 the average world crops of coffee were in the neighbourhood of 20 million sacks of 60 kilogs. Then all of a sudden in 1927/1928 world production jumped to 36 million sacks, of which Brazil supplied no less than 28,300,000.

World consumption of coffee is certainly on the increase, but its rate of increase is not sufficient to keep up with the growing crops. Ten years ago world consumption of coffee was about 19 million sacks ; it is now about twenty-two and a half millions. In these circumstances the 1927/1928 crop left a surplus of about fourteen million sacks. The 1928/1929 crop seems to have been four million sacks short of world consumption, whereas the present crop promises to add some seven or eight million sacks to the existing surplus. However, it is by no means easy to obtain an accurate estimate of existing stocks of coffee in Brazil, from the statistics of production and consumption. Indeed, it is almost certain that the crop declarations are underestimated.

If, indeed, one examines the figures published by the Institute for the Defence of Coffee, one sees that from 1921 to 1927, consumption of coffee was exactly on a level with production. Indeed, there is even a balance in favour of consumption of some three million sacks. So there would only be in stock at present what was left over from the bumper crop of 1927/1928, about nine million sacks. The facts however are entirely different. On July 18 last, at the ordinary general meeting of the Credit Foncier of Brazil, the President asserted that there were in reserve in Brazil 29 million sacks of coffee and that this stock would be increased to forty million sacks by the excess of the current crop. These statements seem to show that Brazil will shortly be in possession of an amount of coffee equal to what the world will consume in the next two years. In these circumstances the outlook of the coffee market seems all the darker because, if nothing abnormal happens, one must look forward to a marked increase of future crops, as fresh plantations are constantly being brought into existence. The recent collapse in coffee prices is the natural consequence of conditions that have been briefly outlined above.

If Brazil only had recent coffee plantations, it would be possible to consider the position with optimism so long as prices, although low, kept above 200 francs per 50 kilogs, for the cost of production on modern plantations is often below 100 francs the 50 kilogs. But the old plantations which are by far the more numerous have very much higher production costs and the present crisis places them in a very difficult if not desperate position. Moreover, if the enormous stocks of coffee that are held in Brazil were suddenly to be thrown upon the market, one might expect a collapse of prices unheard of even in the dark days of 1907. In these conditions the Institute for the Defence of Coffee was necessarily led by the force of

circumstances to come to the aid of the planters as the State of San Paolo had done in 1906, 1917 and 1921.

But in 1929 the task was very much more difficult because of the extent to which overproduction of coffee had increased. It was no longer three million sacks of coffee that had to be withdrawn from the market to control prices, but at least twenty or twenty-two million sacks. As in 1906, recourse was had to a loan, and last April San Paolo obtained the authority of parliament for a loan of twenty million pounds sterling of which British money markets absorbed eight million and American markets seven million pounds sterling. It had been expected to obtain three million pounds from the French market but the arrangement fell through at the last moment. Italy supplied half a million sterling so that there still remains unissued, four and a half million pounds sterling. At first sight the arrangement dictated by the lenders appears somewhat complicated and, if I understand it rightly, contemplates the sale over a period of ten years of the 16,500,000 sacks of coffee held as security for the loan. The planters received an advance of one pound sterling per sack of coffee on 13,500,000 sacks, the other 3,000,000 were to be purchased by the Government and retained as security. I cannot enter here into the details of the complicated operation to which this arrangement led. But it seems clear that San Paolo, completely overwhelmed by circumstances, has placed the coffee market for ten years at least at the mercy of a syndicate of foreign bankers.

The consequences of such an agreement would appear to be extremely serious for Brazil which has abandoned its prerogative to financiers who cannot fail to derive what advantages they can in their own interest. Moreover, it is a condemnation of the policy of valorization that could not fail to end in disaster. For the rest of the world and especially for large consumers of coffee such as France, this agreement is fraught with grave concern. To say the least, it is dangerous to place in the hands of a financial group the control of the world market a product of general consumption. It is no good hiding the fact that the price of coffee may for ten years be dictated by the groups of bankers that have consented to give Brazil momentary relief from her difficulties. For other coffee-producing countries, the danger is even greater. If the syndicate that holds 16,500,000 sacks of coffee desires to do so, it can force the price of coffee down to a point where production is impossible.

It will be said that it is to the interest of the bankers to sell the coffee they hold as security at the highest price. That is not necessarily true. As they have only advanced one pound sterling on every sack of coffee, type No. 5, worth three times as much at current rates, they run little risk, unless some unforeseen catastrophe occurs. On the contrary, if prices fall normally and reach a very low level, without threatening the bankers' security, producers of coffee will fall into further difficulties and the field will be open for further handsome financial profits.

All of which goes to show that it is extremely dangerous to allow any one country to obtain a monopoly of the production of any food-stuff or essential raw material of world-wide consumption, like coffee. Such a privileged position may lead to abuses similar to those that events seem to have forced upon the Institute for the Defence of Coffee. The intentions of the State of San Paolo when it undertook the valorization of coffee were

undoubtedly excellent. The operation was undertaken with a view to regulating the coffee market, organizing production, adjusting it to consumption and maintaining prices at a reasonable level both for producers and consumers. Events have proved that between a theory and its practical application there are often many insurmountable difficulties.

The Institute for the Defence of Coffee, itself an organisation to prevent speculation in coffee, has become by the force of circumstances the abettor of such speculation, it may even be said that it has become the greatest of all speculators in coffee.

When coffee crops were sufficient to meet the needs of consumption at reasonable prices, coffee prices were forced up to undue levels. Everybody rushed to plant coffee and overproduction has reached such a point that all coffee planters in the world are faced with ruin to-day. The remedy for this state of affairs seems to me to lie in the disappearance of the actual monopoly that Brazil enjoys in the production of coffee. If, instead of producing two-thirds of all the coffee consumed in the world, it produced less than half, it is certain that it would not have been able of its own volition to adopt valorization measures that have led to the present inextricable position. In consequence, it seems desirable that all countries that can produce coffee should make an effort to raise a certain amount so that in the years to come no one nation shall enjoy a monopoly. The Governments concerned will have to take steps to enable their coffee planters to tide over the present crisis, the duration of which it is impossible to foresee. This is all the more essential as Brazil will not always be able to supply coffee to the world. Her plantation methods are open to criticism in many ways and rapidly exhaust the soil, thus forcing planters to go continually further into the interior away from the ports in order to secure virgin soil. A time will come when the coffee produced will be burdened with prohibitive transportation charges.

Brazil itself ought to intervene in order to bring about a reform of the cultivation methods of her planters. They are given magnificent virgin forests, the clearing of which leaves large amounts of fertilizer behind sufficient to maintain the land in a state of high fertility for twenty years at least. But as no precautions are taken to preserve this treasure, it rapidly becomes exhausted and after a quarter of a century the land is ruined. It only gives ridiculous crops and the planter has to move further inland. All who are conversant with agriculture know that rational cultivation does not exhaust the soil, which on the contrary is continually enriched thereby, and we are forced to the conclusion that the coffee planters of Brazil do not cultivate as well as they might. In other words, it would be well for Brazilian coffee planters to adopt methods that would ensure the perenniability of their plantations. Crops would be stabilized at satisfactory levels and one would not see, as today, certain Brazilian plantations producing coffee at 140 francs the 100 kilogs, while others cannot produce it for less than 300 to 350 francs. Once crop stability has been attained, the coffee market will no longer be subject to ups and downs such as it has experienced of recent years, the primary cause of which in my opinion was the necessity in which the Institute found itself of maintaining prices at excessive levels in order to permit even the owners of worn-out plantations to make profits.—*World Trade Quarterly Review*.

MADRAS PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION ACT

From the Report of Mr. H. Hawley, Public Analyst to the Government of Madras, we learn that the Act has now been extended to the towns of Madras, Ootacamund, Calicut, Coimbatore, Guntur, Karaikudi, Madura, Nellore, Rajahmundry, Trichinopoly, Vizagapatam, Kumbakonam, Telli-cherry, Mettupalayam, Virudhunagar and Mangalore.

The present report only deals with the year in which the Act was first brought into force 1929-30, the total samples of food-stuffs sent in to the analyst for enquiry was only 98 which is accounted for by the fact that samples were received only during the last four months of the year.

The following statement of action taken by Municipalities and the result in each case, borders on the comic. The Magistrate who considered that a caution was all that was necessary in a case in which a vendor was found selling milk with a deficiency of 95 per cent of fat and an addition of 25 per cent of water is almost equalled by another Magistrate who imposed a fine of Rs. 10 in a case where 95 per cent of foreign fat was found in substance being sold as ghee.

Food	Municipality	Nature of adulteration	Result of action taken
Ghee	Vizagapatam	20 per cent foreign fat	Fined Rs. 20
	Coimbatore	49 " "	Fined Rs. 5
	Trichinopoly	95 " "	Fined Rs. 10
Milk	Ootacamund	55 " added water	No action
	Vizagapatam	58 " "	Fined Rs. 2
	"	41 " "	"
	"	61 " "	"
	"	42 " "	"
	"	65 " "	"
	"	34 " "	"
	"	31 " "	"
	Trichinopoly	13 " "	Vendor cautioned
"	"	41 " "	"
"	"	16 " deficient fat	"
"	"	43 " "	"
"	"	7 " added water	"
"	Guntur	62 " "	"
"	"	58 " "	"
"	"	29 " "	"
"	"	60 " "	"
"	Coimbatore	25 " added water and 95 per cent deficient fat	"
Coffee	Ootacamund	62 " added water	"
	"	40 " chicory	No action

Ootacamund even now is in the same position as in 1930, that although flagrant cases of adulteration may be discovered, no action can be taken until municipal rules are amended.

Prosecutions under the Act are steadily increasing. In Madras two penalties of Rs. 10 each have recently been imposed and thirteen cases are pending in connection with imitation or adulterated teas. In Trichinopoly nine prosecutions resulting in fines from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 have been made, four cases are pending in Calicut and at Kumbakonam prosecutions are being undertaken both in respect to tea and coffee adulteration.

CHINA WOOD-OIL

THE TREE AND ITS CULTURE IN CHINA

The production of tung-oil in China is from the fruit of two varieties of trees found growing in the area between the twenty-fifth and thirty-fourth degree north latitude, within 1,200 miles of the sea-coast. These varieties are known as the *Aleurites fordii*, or *tung-yu shu*, and the *Aleurites montana*, or *mu-yu shu*. The former grows principally in South China, particularly in Kwangsi Province; the latter, however, is the hardier and more important species and is found growing on the heavy clay hillsides and waste places along the Yangtze River. It is very easy of cultivation, and the climatic conditions necessary for its growth are quite similar to those found in certain sections of our Southern States. It thrives best, however, in hilly country where the altitude does not exceed 2,500 feet. It is said that full-grown trees can stand a temperature of 40° F., but that young trees with the sap still flowing may be injured or killed by a sudden fall in temperature to 18° or 20° F.

The wood-oil tree attains a growth of from 10 to 30 feet in height and a diameter of 6 to 10 inches. It is deciduous, shedding its leaves in October and November, and is low spreading and produces a profusion of long, white, bell-shaped blossoms, which appear before the leaves. The tree commences to bear fruit when from 3 to 6 years old, each tree being capable of a yield of from 30 to 40 pounds of seed in a season. As will be shown later, it is largely from wild trees and not the cultivated species that the wood-oil of the present-day market is obtained.

The fruit is green, about the size of a large walnut, and contains from three to eight seeds, the usual number being five. These seeds have a thin, shell-like covering, inside of which is found the kernel, white in colour. The distinctive odour of the oil is apparent to a lesser degree in the meat or kernel of the seed.

Methods of Cultivation.—The seeds should be planted about 4 inches deep and about 10 inches apart during the dormant season (November, December and January); otherwise they will get an early start and sprout up with a thin stem. By planting in the dormant season the sprouts will spring up at the right time and spread out to low branching trees, which give the highest yield of seed.

It has also been learned during the course of the experiments at Gainesville, Fla., that stunted seedlings or seedlings from which long-stemmed trees have resulted may be cut back to within about 8 inches of the ground, allowing a few buds to remain on the stem. The next season the plants will readily sprout up and show rapid growth to a low-spreading variety. Budding and grafting experiments have been attempted and are apparently successful.

It has been found that the tung-oil tree may be grown on land with a relatively low monetary value per acre (about \$20 per acre is the estimated average price) and that cut-over land may be utilized for this purpose.

If the seeds are planted in the dormant season, they will in less than 12 months, be ready as seedlings to transplant into fields. The seedlings should be planted about 25 feet apart, in order to permit spreading, allowing approximately 75 to 80 trees to an acre. These planted at Gainesville, in

1912, ten feet apart, are now in a very flourishing condition, and the measurement of one is given at 28½ feet for the height and 34½ feet for the spread.

It is necessary to keep the ground around the seedling cultivated for the space of 3 feet, in order that growth of weeds will be prevented. At the end of the first year after planting, the seedlings may be from 4 to 8 feet in height, and some may show full-size fruit. It is advisable, however, not to allow the fruit to mature during the first year, but to remove it, in order to allow the tree to fully develop and to gain in strength of growth.

While a very substantial yield of nuts has been shown by trees from 3 to 5 years old, this amount is increased yearly, and Mr. Gardner in his Report on Recent Tung-Oil Developments in Florida (dated September 24) from which report most of the foregoing materials has been taken, estimates that almost maximum production is attained at the end of the tenth year.

Fertilization is strongly recommended, and experiments indicate that a small amount of nitrate of soda gives very stimulating results. Cowpeas and beggar weed (both leguminous plants) may be planted between the rows of trees, which, plowed under, would add materially to the nitrogen content of the soil.

The Director of the College of Agriculture at Gainesville has stated that the tung-oil tree is less subject to disease and to insect attack than any other tree in Florida of which he has knowledge. Evidently the successful growing of the tree is fairly well assured, and consideration must now be taken of other factors which will have an influence on this innovation.

WORTHING GROCERS' ASSOCIATION

An interesting talk on coffee by Mr. W. Hawkes, of Bognor Regis, the winner last year of the challenge trophy for coffee-roasting and blending at the London Exhibition, was the principal item on the agenda for the monthly meeting of the above association held at Mitchell's Restaurant, Chapel-road, Worthing, on Thursday week. The President (Mr. F. W. Freeman of Warnham) was in the chair, and a special invitation was extended to assistants to attend.

TALK ON COFFEE.—In inviting Mr. Hawkes to give his 'talk' on coffee, the President said that gentleman had already won twelve medals and seven diplomas at various competitions, and in 1925 he believed he finished second, but last year he was determined to carry off the coveted trophy itself, and they heartily congratulated him on his success. Mr. Hawkes said the subject of coffee had been to him a most interesting hobby. There was a popular belief that the drinking of coffee was first popularised in France, but as a fact it was brought from Arabia to England some few years before it was introduced in France. The first mention of coffee in England dated back to 1637. The first coffee house in this country was established in Oxford in 1650, and the first house for the public drinking of coffee in London was opened a year or two later in the neighbourhood of Cornhill. Coffee-houses in those days, Mr. Hawkes went on to say, were really meeting-places for men of letters and for the discussion to a large extent of political problems. The history of the taxes levied on coffee was also interesting. In 1666 the tax was 8d. per gallon sold, and later there was further tax of 6d. per lb. At one period the tax was 5s.

per lb., which would have made it a pretty expensive beverage. Passing on to the growth and preparation of coffee, Mr. Hawkes handed round for inspection, samples of coffee in cherryform, coffee in parchment, and also of the various varieties of the beans preparatory to roasting. He pointed out that if the beans were roasted to a very high degree they would run the risk of losing some of the volatile oil which was so essential to the flavour of the coffee in the cup. People on the Continent said 'we did not take our roasts high enough', but he preferred a medium roast himself and he thought they got a better coffee. Directly they saw the oil standing on the top of the beans, or the beans sweating it, as it were, they could take it for granted they were losing some of the oil that should go into the coffee. This reference to the roasting led to two or three questions from the President and others, and Mr. Hawkes agreed that many people had a preference for the Continental roast and that it was necessary to cater for that demand, but he suggested that was no reason why they should not try and show the public here their own method was the best. Asked what varieties he would recommend to make up the ideal blend, Mr. Hawkes replied that that depended upon the particular area for which they were catering.—Mr. Gill, in expressing the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Hawkes for his interesting and instructive talk, said there were many things they could make a mental note of and find profitable to them in their businesses. The President also thanked Mr. Hawkes for his address and the frank and ready way in which he had answered their questions. They also hoped he would be successful in retaining the cup for a year or two, now that it had been brought down to Sussex. Coffee and sandwiches were provided by the President, who was thanked for his hospitality.—*The Grocers' Gazette.*

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TEA TRADE IN 1930

Although tea has not escaped the world-wide fall in prices, it has differed from many of them in that finer qualities have maintained their prices, while undesirable qualities have shown a heavy reduction. The public to-day can buy tea at 1s. per lb. that two years ago would cost them 1s. 8d.; against this good quality tea still maintains its price of 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. In their review of the tea trade in 1930 Messrs. Robinson Bros. and Masters, Ltd., draw attention to the fact that good-quality tea is still the best value, even now that common tea is so cheap. An interesting feature to be noticed in connection with a large increase in the production of tea, and one which generally operates, is the low prices realized for common teas and the exceedingly high price realized for fine tea. The season has emphasised this particular feature in the scarcity of all good grades. Tracing the cause of the fall in price of common tea, which appears to be due to overproduction, figures are quoted giving the production of India, Ceylon, Java, and Sumatra. In 1926 production was 744 million pounds; in 1927, 760 millions; 1928, 787 millions; and 1929, 839 millions. The enormous increase of nearly 100 million pounds in four years has exceeded the increase in consumption to such an extent that the position became critical for the growers, and a voluntary agreement was entered into by India, Ceylon, and the Java planters to restrict production in 1930. The effect of this reduction has hardly been felt yet, as it has been brought about by stopping picking at an earlier date; the later pickings, which have not yet been made this season, are not normally due to

our market till the spring. There should be considerably less tea on offer towards April and May, which will be the time to test the success or otherwise of the scheme. Judging by the stock figures, the reduction hardly appears sufficient to cause much advance in the price, as it will barely reduce the stock to normal requirements. The general opinion appears to be that it will require another restricted output in 1931 to cause any scarcity in tea. There is very little doubt that this will be done, in which case we may expect higher prices in 1931. This country, being now a free port for tea, has attracted a larger proportion of the crop than before, and anything that could not be sold in Calcutta or Colombo has been shipped here; the direct shipments to Canada and Australia are both down.

—*The Home and Colonial Mail.*

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DEDUCTIONS FOR BAD WORK

DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEAL IN ENGLAND

As a recent decision of the Court of Appeal in England may be of interest to planters, we reproduce an extract from the *Times of India* in which it was stated that the Supreme Court had declared the custom of fining weavers in Lancashire for faulty work illegal. The Court of Appeal, in allowing an appeal of Messrs. H. Ridehalgh and Son Limited, cotton cloth manufacturers of Nelson, has set aside this decision of Mr. Justice Farwell in the Chancery Division, who held that there was nothing in the rules or uniform list of prices which provided for deductions for bad work, and that such deductions were illegal. Giving judgment, the Master of the Rolls said the question to be determined was whether, in the present case, there was a term of contract which provided that the quality of the work done was to be taken into account. In his Lordship's view it was a term of the contract of employment that the weaver should receive the full-scale rates for good work, and bad work gave the employers the right to make deductions. There was cogent evidence that the system of deductions in the estimation of work to be paid for had been in operation at the defendants' mill for a long stretch of time, and had been exercised from time to time at the discretion of the defendants or their managers.

The plaintiff's evidence showed clearly that the basis of his employment was for good work, and in his (the Master of the Rolls) judgement it was an integral term of the employment that he should not receive the full-scale except for good work, not for bad work. The contract between him and his employer was for quality of work no less than quality of materials supplied. Holding that the contract between the parties was of the terms he (his Lordship) had indicated, it was not necessary to consider the practice at other mills in any other larger area. The contract was in his judgement one to which the prohibition of the Truck Act did not apply.

Lord Justice Lawrence agreed. This reduction, he said, was not an arbitrary reduction. The workman was free to prove that his work was good. There was a suggestion that this practice was unreasonable, but in his view, this suggestion was unfounded. He agreed that the appeal should be allowed. Lord Justice Romer also concurred and the appeal was accordingly allowed with costs.

—(*Vide 'Labour Gazette' for January 1931, p. 445*)

TEA CROP OF SOUTHERN INDIA, 1930

The following statement shows the total Tea Crop for Southern India for 1930 :—

		lbs.	lbs.
From Anamalais	(Coimbatore District) ...	9,720,469	
" Nilgiris	(Nilgiri ") ...	6,612,774	
" Nil-Wynaad ("	(") ...	4,093,014	
" Wynaad and Nelliampathies (Malabar District	... ... ...	5,468,487	
Total Madras Presidency	... ...	25,894,744	
From Cochin	... ... ...	61,709	
" Coorg	... ... ...	167,537	
" Mysore	... ... ...	123,804	
From Travancore—			
Central	... ...	10,407,446	
Mundakayam	... ...	907,707	
Kanan Devans	... ...	13,529,834	
South	... ...	2,709,263	
Total from Travancore	... ...	27,554,250	
Total for South India	... ...	53,802,044	

No green tea was made during the year.

This compares with the a total in 1929 of 58,517,586 pounds, which shows that restriction and unfavourable weather conditions were responsible for very considerable reduction in the crop for it must be remembered that there is a very considerable area of young tea in southern India, which is coming into bearing and giving increased yields each year.

The Nelliampathy planting district is unfortunate in having part of its area in Malabar and part in Cochin, so that in any statement prepared for comparison with Government figures, the crop of the district is divided. The total tea crop of the planting district in the Nelliampathies was 75,661 pounds.

H. W.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

COIMBATORE DIVISION

The Trichinopoly Agency has been closed down as from March 1, 1931, owing to retrenchment.

Mr. U. S. S. Raghava Iyengar, Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department, Udumalpet, is retiring as from March 1, 1931, owing to old age and Mr. S. Nagappa Pillai, who was the Trichy Agent, has been appointed in his place. Mr. S. Nagappa Pillai's address is Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department, Udumalpet.

COIMBATORE,
February 25, 1931.

E. F. H. GERRARD,
Superintendent.

SALEM Division

The temporary Agency at Tirukoyilur, South Arcot District, has been closed and Mr. Yesupatham Pandian, the Agent, dismissed.

Labour coming from these parts can now be entrained either by the Katpadi or Attur Agents.

In this connection Estates are warned not to advance anything but very small amounts indeed to maistries or coolies coming from North or South Arcot, as debts in these districts are seldom recoverable.

C. RICKETTS,
Superintendent.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
ON 16TH FEBRUARY 1931**

By oversight, in the report circulated, the name of Mr. A. J. Wright, the Member of the Executive Committee for the Labour Department, was omitted.

H. W.

DISTRICT NOTES

SOUTH TRAVANCORE

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the South Travancore Planters' Association was held at the Kalkurity Valley Club on Saturday, February 21, 1931 at 10 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. W. Gillespie, *Chairman*, A. H. L. White, C. E. Smith, R. E. S. Branson, A. W. Leslie, T. W. U. Park, F. H. Powell, P. E. D. Cameron by Proxy representing E. C. Sherman and G. H. Waters ; and A. P. D. Lodge, *Honorary Secretary*.

Honorary Members :

Messrs. W. Dunbar, R. M. Lawson, and E. Gray.

Visitors :

Messrs. M. W. Mackay, D. F. Keith, and J. S. Price.

1. The Honorary Secretary read the *notice calling the meeting*.

2. The minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on November 15, 1930, having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, dated December 6, 1930, were taken as read. One item 'In Committee' was read out by the Honorary Secretary.

Mr. T. W. U. Park proposed that the minutes be confirmed, seconded by Mr. C. E. Smith.

Carried.

3. *Election of delegate to General Committee Meeting.*—Proposed from the Chair that Mr. A. P. D. Lodge represent this P. A.

Carried.

4. *General Committee Meeting and Budget for 1931-32.*—The Chairman explained the reason for the non-receipt of Budget figures from the Secretary, UPASI. He stated that the cost of running the Experimental Station had been reduced to the lowest possible figure, and provided that the subscribing acreage remained the same, represented 3 annas per acre, the previous year's estimate having been at Re. 1.

5. Rubber Advisory Committee, and Meeting of Rubber Interests at Cochin.—Mr. W. Gillespie gave a short account of the work done by the Committee, details of the Budget figures for running the Experimental Station, and future programme of field experiments and work to be carried out.

He then read out the full report of the meeting of Rubber Interests held at Cochin on February 7, 1931.

After a general discussion, the Chairman asked for the Meeting to show whether it was in agreement with the resolution passed. This was put to the vote.

Carried unanimously.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. P. D. LODGE,
Honorary Secretary.

W. GILLESPIE,
Chairman.

TRAVANCORE COMBINED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 17th Annual Meeting held in the Quilon Club on Saturday, February 28, 1931 at 10-30 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. A. J. Wright, *Chairman*, (Kanan Devan Planters' Association), L. A. Lampard, (Planting Member of Travancore Legislative Council), J. H. Cantlay, (Central Travancore Planters' Association), E. T. C. Farr, (South Travancore Planters' Association), and L. J. T. Polgreen, *Honorary Secretary*, (Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited).

Visitors :

Messrs. E. Lord and H. C. Boyd.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Honorary Secretary read his report for the year 1930.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1930

GENTLEMEN,

This is our 17th Annual General Meeting. The accounts have been circulated and call for no comment. Our thanks are due to Mr. Harrison for auditing them. There has been no change in the membership during the year.

Tea Export Duty.—I regret having to report that the Travancore Government has not yet come to a decision regarding the abolition of this duty. Owing to strong opposition throughout the State to the imposition of super-tax, it has not been possible to get the Government to introduce the methods of taxing tea interests which prevail in British India. In December last, at a meeting which was attended by representatives of European and Indian tea interests in the State, and by two members of the Travancore Chambers of Commerce, it was decided to agree to the taxation of up to 60 per cent of profits from tea provided the export duty was abolished. Those who attended the meeting subsequently formed a deputation to the acting Dewan. The matter was then fully discussed with the Government representatives and it is hoped that some progress has been made. The Planting Member will again approach the Government if orders are not issued in the near future.

As the proceedings of this meeting will be published, it is perhaps advisable for me to explain that your representatives were reluctant to go beyond the percentage of tea profits which is liable to taxation in British India but they found it necessary for the following reasons:—

(a) because no super-tax is levied in Travancore.

(b) because the Government would not consider any proposal which meant a loss of revenue to the State.

It is obviously preferable that tea growers should pay income-tax according to their profits than that they should continue to pay a standard duty which has no relation to the market value of the commodity. The Government attitude made a compromise essential and, if the taxation of 60 per cent of profits from tea is finally agreed to, it by

no means follows that the growers accept this as a fair percentage of their income derived from business as against agriculture. The position has been explained to, and accepted by, the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I.

Road Boards.—In accordance with the decisions made at the last meeting the Travancore Government was approached regarding fuller representation for the Planting Community on the newly formed Road Boards. Since then, the Planting Member of the Legislative Council has been nominated to the Central Board. As regards appointments to District Boards, the only information I have received is a letter from the Chief Secretary that the matter will be considered when Government takes up the question of a revision of the constitution of the Boards after watching their work for some time.

Prevention of sale of adulterated tea.—The Planting Member was appointed, during the year, to a Select Committee to consider the draft of a Food Adulteration Bill which has since been put before the Legislative Council, and which, I understand, is likely to be passed. The provisions of this Bill will make the sale of adulterated tea illegal. The standard required of tea under this Bill is similar to the standard required in British India.

This, gentlemen, completes my report and I now tender my resignation.

L. J. T. POLGREEN,
Honorary Secretary.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 1930

	RS A P		RS A P
To Postages	12 11 0	By subscriptions (9 at 25/-).	225 0 0
Telegrams	3 9 0	Interest ...	24 6 0
Typist's salary	25 0 0		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	208 2 0		
	249 6 0		249 6 0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1930

	RS A P	RS A P	Cash with Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited.	RS A P
Income and Expenditure A/c.				
Balance at credit January 1, 1930.	545 13 5	...		
<i>Add</i> Excess of Income over Expenditure January 1, 1930—December 31, 1930.	208 2 0	753 15 5	On deposit account.	400 0 0
		753 15 5	On current account.	353 15 5
		753 15 5		753 15 5

Examined with vouchers and found
correct.

January 17, 1931,

(Sd.) W. D. HARRISON.

Quilon, January 17, 1931.

(Sd.) L. J. T. POLGREEN,

Honorary Secretary.

Mr. J. H. Cantlay proposed and Mr. Wright seconded that this and the accounts be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Planting Member, Honorary Auditor and Honorary Secretary.

Mr. Lampard then referred to matters with which he had been concerned during the year in his capacity as Planting Member.

Delay in the issue of title-deeds for land.—Mr. Cantlay informed the meeting that he was to have an interview with the Dewan on this subject as far as interests in Peermade and Vandiperiyar were concerned. It was decided that the Planting Member should be advised of the result of the interview so that if necessary he could pursue the matter.

Subjects for Sri Mulam were discussed and the delegates instructed.

Subscription for 1931 was fixed at Rs. 10 per member on a motion from the Chair.

Office-bearers for 1931.—The following were elected :—

Chairman	...	...	Mr. Eric Hall (S.T.P.A.)
Vice-Chairman	...	...	Mr. H. C. Boyd (K.D.P.A.)
Honorary Secretary	...	...	Mr. L. J. T. Polgreen.

Mr. Wright agreed to continue to act as Chairman until the return from leave of Mr. Eric Hall in April.

Other Business.—The question of effecting economies in Estate Expenditure was discussed. It was felt that no useful purpose could be served at the present time by the Association taking part in the campaign but it was agreed that the Association should assist in the future if such assistance would be of benefit.

Mr. E. T. C. Farr then proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, Mr. A. J. Wright. Mr. L. A. Lampard, in seconding the proposal, referred to Mr. Wright's long and valued connection with the Association extending over sixteen years, during the greater part of which time he had been a member of the Executive Committee and, on ten occasions, Chairman. The proposal was carried with acclamation and best wishes were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wright on their retirement from India.

Mr. Wright replied suitably and the meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Quilon Club Committee for the use of the room.

L. J. T. POLGREEN,
Honorary Secretary.

DEVARSHOLA

NILGIRI-WYNAAD

On February 18th to 20th, a very successful little Tennis Tournament was held at Devarshola, the first of its kind in this side of the district, 15 men and 3 ladies competing. Numbers are now large enough to start a small club of our own and if ever market conditions improve, the 'Powers-that-be' will be asked to support the idea.

Men's Singles (Handicap) won by Mr. Jones, of the U.P.A.S.I. Experimental Station.

Open Doubles (drawn) won by Dr. Shaw and Mr. Johnston.

Married Mixed Doubles (Handicap) won by Dr. and Mrs. Shaw.

The Experimental Station therefore did very well, due no doubt to having had more practice than the rest of us, their only form of exercise on the Station to be had.

The following gave small cups for the events :—

Messrs. J. S. Nicolls, G. W. Fulcher, J. E. Biiset, Dr. Shaw, Mr. Scott Hart and Mr. J. C. Nicolls.

The cups, I am glad to say, arrived in time and a 'Prize Giving' on the 3rd evening wound up a very pleasant three evenings of Tennis.

Mr. J. S. Nicolls, out from England just now, was asked to say a few words, and incidentally very kindly has promised a challenge cup for Men's Singles. Mrs. Fulcher was asked to give away the cups and Mr. Fulcher thanked Mr. Scott Hart, on behalf of the Committee, for the excellent arrangements made by him for everything at the Blue Hills bungalow and its courts.

It is much hoped by all in the district that the Tournament will become an annual event.

'ONE OF 'EM.'

CORRESPONDENCE

Training of men in grafting Coffee

Roc. 2329—Sc. 349/30-31

The Editor 'The Planters' Chronicle'

SIR,

We have on the Coffee Experimental Station a man, experienced in grafting, who has been engaged in testing methods of grafting coffee and in ascertaining the conditions as to climate and season under which grafting can be successfully carried out.

A few coffee planters have expressed a desire to have one or two men trained in grafting methods on the farm. This is to inform coffee planters in general that we shall be glad to arrange for such training. Those desiring to have men trained should apply to the Manager, Coffee Experiment Station, Balehonnur.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,
MYSORE STATE,
Bangalore,
March 2, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
LESLIE COLEMAN,
Director of Agriculture.

The Spraying of Coffee

D. O. No. C 2376/30-31

To : The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle.'

DEAR SIR,

During the past two or three months I have had a number of enquiries from coffee planters in regard to spraying against leaf disease and other diseases of coffee. I had hoped long ere this that we should have been able to publish a bulletin upon the spraying of coffee but unforeseen difficulties have arisen which have led to delay. I should, however, fail in my duty to the coffee industry if I did not express my views on this subject at this time.

It is, I think, quite clear that, at coffee prices which are now prevailing and which seem likely to prevail in the immediate future, coffee planters will have to scrutinize carefully each single item of expenditure in the light of probable returns from such expenditure. The relative importance of such different items, as cultivation, manuring and spraying will no doubt vary on different estates and in different coffee areas with the varying soil and climatic conditions that prevail. Most coffee planters have, I believe, fairly definite opinions on cultivation and manuring based usually on long local experience.

As regards cultivation I have nothing to say except that the needs must vary greatly on the different soil types found in our coffee areas. As regards manuring I would draw attention to the fact that up to the present, our manurial experiments indicate the most satisfactory results from the use of ammonium sulphate and superphosphate as sources of nitrogen and

phosphoric acid respectively while sulphate and chloride of potash seem to give about equal results as sources of potash. At the present time when a quick return on the money invested is essential, it is, I believe, a great mistake to stick to such slow acting manures as bone-meal. As to oil cakes, the present price of groundnut cake is so low as to bring it into competition with ammonium sulphate especially in those areas situated fairly close to the source of supplies. Where, however, transport charges form an important item of the cost of fertilizers, I believe ammonium sulphate will still be found the more economical source of nitrogen.

If we turn to the spraying of coffee, planters in general are not nearly so well informed as they are in regard to cultivation and manuring. In the first place, there is any thing but a clear idea as to the reduction of yield due to such diseases as leaf disease and die back. In the case of blackrot the reduction in yield is so directly apparent in the dropping of crop that most planters are able to form a pretty accurate estimate of their loss from it. The reduction caused by the other two diseases is much more difficult to estimate. Especially is this the case with leaf disease and I have heard quite a number of planters express the view that the disease is not serious on their particular estates. When I state that spraying thoroughly carried out on coffee estates in Mysore over a series of years, has, on the estimate of experienced planters, resulted in an average increase of two hundred-weights per acre and that this increase is undoubtedly due largely to the control of leaf disease, some idea of the losses caused by this disease can be formed. I may say that some of these estates are situated in what is looked upon as one of the best coffee areas in Mysore where the losses from leaf disease are undoubtedly below the average. The extent to which leaf disease causes leaf fall is clearly brought out by recent observations of Mr. Mayne on the Coffee Experiment Station and on a neighbouring estate. He has found, in his first observations made shortly after the last monsoon, that sprayed trees carry, on an average, double the number of leaves that unsprayed trees carry. The effect of this on the production of crop will I think be obvious to any planter.

As far as I have been able to ascertain, those in Mysore who have taken to spraying as a regular practice are not likely to drop it during the present period of depression as they have been convinced that it pays even under present price conditions. It is, however, safe to say that, in Mysore, not ten per cent of the coffee area is being sprayed; while, in most other coffee districts, the percentage is probably still smaller. Yet I am of opinion that in most coffee areas in South India no other one operation will yield such an early and large return on the money invested as spraying. This opinion is, however, subject to one most important qualification. Whereas the manuring of coffee is certain to produce results, if the soil requires fertilizers, even when the manures are not applied at the most favourable time, this is not nearly so much the case with spraying. In other words, if spraying is not done at the right time it is very largely a waste of money.

The results of observations and experiments on the Coffee Experiment Station and elsewhere have shown pretty conclusively that, for Mysore conditions, spraying in May and early June immediately before the monsoon has a much better effect than spraying done earlier before the monsoon. It seems, moreover, doubtful if under average conditions spraying earlier

than April will give an adequate return on the money spent. As to post-monsoon spraying, it must be done as soon after the monsoon as possible and here again it is doubtful if spraying much after the end of October or at the latest the middle of November will give an adequate return.

It is, I think, now generally accepted that for the control of leaf disease, two sprayings a year are necessary to give anything like satisfactory control. In the case of blackrots, spraying before the monsoon, if properly conducted, should give complete control. The necessity of two sprayings a year must, to many planters who have not undertaken this operation, seem a serious, if not absolutely insuperable obstacle to its introduction under present conditions. We have, therefore, had to consider every possible means of reducing cost. Obviously, the cost on labour cannot be greatly reduced except through a reduction in wages which has, I understand, already been decided upon in the Mysore coffee areas. However, there are few operations on coffee estates where thorough and constant supervision is more necessary to get the best results with the least expenditure of money. On an average, the cost of material used in spraying, represents two-thirds of the total cost and it is obviously here, if at all, that great saving is possible. Experiments in this connection which have been carried out during the past year on the Coffee Experiment Station and on private estates, indicate that a reduction of the spray to half strength for both pre-(and post)-monsoon sprays does not greatly reduce the effectiveness of the control, where Bordeaux mixture is used. We have not as yet carried out similar experiments with Burgundy mixture. This means that $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of lime and $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of copper sulphate can be used to every 50 gallons of water in place of the 5-5-50 formula commonly used now. As regards adhesives, although we have no experimental data to go upon I should be inclined under present conditions to dispense with them in the post-monsoon spray. If subsequent experience supports the tentative conclusions given above, it will be possible to reduce the cost of spraying to about one and one-third that of the single spraying at full strength. If we add to this the appreciable fall in the price of copper sulphate and casein and a smaller fall in the price of lime it should, I think, be possible to carry out two sprayings for little above what a single spraying has cost heretofore. Based upon the most recent quotations received by us, the cost of materials per acre, on the assumption that 400 gallons of mixture are required, works out as follows:—

		RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Pre-monsoon spray	...	...	7	7	0 to	9	7 0
Post-monsoon spray	...	...	5	15	0		
Total for two sprays	...	13	6	0 to 15	6	0	

The estimated costs are based on quotations recently received and take into account railway and road transport to Chickmagalur or Saklaspur two centres from which spray materials are distributed by the Department. They may be taken as representing about what the average cost of materials would be landed on Estates in Mysore. The figures for pre-monsoon spray include cost of adhesive in the form of lime casein or resin soda, the

latter increasing the cost by about Rs. 2 per acre. Linseed adhesive costs about four annas less per acre than resin soda. Notwithstanding the higher cost of these last two adhesives, I would advise their use in all areas where the monsoon is at all heavy, as they are more effective than casein. This seems especially necessary where a weak spray mixture is used. The cost given for the post-monsoon spray is exclusive of adhesive.

Labour charges have been usually estimated at about Rs. 7 per acre. With the lower wages that are apparently coming into force, at least in Mysore, this would be reduced to less than Rs. 6 or Rs. 12 per acre for two sprayings. The total cost for the two sprayings would therefore be between Rs. 25-6-0 and Rs. 27-6-0 per acre. If we include cost of replacements of tubing, spray nozzles, etc., the total should, I think, not exceed Rs. 30 per acre.

In the above discussion I have not mentioned the question of die back control. While there are still a number of obscure points in connection with this disease, it seems clear that spraying for the control of leaf disease will also prove fairly effective in the control of die back, but here also the time when the spraying is done and the thoroughness of the operation seem to be of great importance.

In conclusion, I may say that the above tentative recommendations are based upon experiments and observations carried out in Mysore State. The climatic conditions in some other areas are different and whereas in the Shevaroys the months of heavy rainfall differ greatly from those in Mysore, the most favourable periods for spraying will, of course, be different. I do not expect that every coffee planter will take up spraying on a large scale as a result of this communication nor would I advise it. I would, however, suggest to coffee planters in general the trial of spraying on a block of coffee, of at least ten acres in an area usually most seriously affected by disease. If the results of this test show that spraying pays under present conditions, it would clearly be the point of wisdom to extend the operations as rapidly as possible. If, as is indicated by results obtained on a number of estates in Mysore, the average yield of coffee can be increased by two hundredweights per acre through spraying, surely it is wise to undertake it even under present conditions. An average increase in yield of two hundred-weights per acre at a cost equivalent to less than the value of one hundredweight would, I believe, make all the difference between profit and loss on many coffee estates in South India. I may say, however, that an increase of this amount is hardly to be expected upon coffee that has been starved and neglected, for if there is insufficient plant food in the soil, the plants cannot be expected to make a vigorous growth, even with spraying. On the other hand, it is equally certain that manuring is of no practical value in the control of either blackrot or leaf disease. On the subject of the relation of manuring to die back I should not like to express an opinion at present.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,

MYSORE STATE,

BANGALORE,

March 7, 1931.

Yours etc.,

LESLIE C. COLEMAN,

Director of Agriculture.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING JANUARY, 1931

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.

Average prices obtained for tea.

Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending Feb. 19, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 19, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 19, 1930
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, February 19, 1931)			N. India. S. India. Ceylon... Java ... Sumatra. Nyassaland	s. d. 0 11·42 a 0 11·41 1 3·32 0 7·86 0 8·98 0 7·88	s. d. 1 1·08 b 1 1·58 1 4·45 0 9·62 0 10·31 0 9·16	s. d. 1 1·66 c 1 1·40 1 5·53 0 9·15 0 10·48 0 8·96
			Total...	d 11·85	e 1 1·52	f 1 2·19
(a) Anamallais—					<i>N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below.—</i>	
Mukottu Mudi	...	189		a 3,407	b 42,435	c 59,628
Thay Mudi	...	179		d 85,479	e 652,116	f 661,940
(b) Central Travancore—					<i>(B) COFFEE.—</i>	
Cheenthalaar	...	86			London Prices (Seven days ending February 18, 1931).	
Nellikai	...	80				
(c) Kanan Devans—						
*Pulivassal	...	73				
Thenmallay	...	145				
(d) Nilgiris—						
*Chamraj	...	51				
Craigmore	...	173				
Bhawani	...	109				
*Singara	...	142				

(B) COFFEE.—

London Prices (Seven days ending February 18, 1931).

District	Bags	. s. d.	Grades
<i>Mysore—</i>			
MB Honeyvale	102	104 1	1, 2, PB, and T.

(C) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, March 10, 1931 was 3½^{1/2}

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, March 7, 1931, were 83,451 tons, an increase of 1,266 tons on February 28, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, March 7, 1931, were 45,487 tons, an increase of 711 tons on February 28, 1931, inventory.

*Where invoices are not sold, including the Averages.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, March 12, 1931

Planting.—**Raw Rubber**, during the early part of the fortnight, improved to above 4d. on renewed talk of restriction, and share values were marked up several points. There was however only small speculative buying and the tendency is again weak. The **Raw Commodity** closed at 3s. 15/16d. **Teas**, on the other hand, were completely neglected by buyers with the market being steadily supplied with selling orders. **Devasholas** had a marking at Rs. 6.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 4 3	+ 3d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 12 6	+ 1s. 9d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 12 6	+ 9d.
4. Merlinau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 6	+ 4d.
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	+ 6d.
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s	0	1 0	...
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 4 3	- 9d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 18 6	+ 2s. 6d.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 15 6	+ 6d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	10	12
Devasholas Rs. 9	6	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	35
Nelliampathy Hilla Rs. 10	4	8
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	4	4
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	21
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	28	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	21	22
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1
Periyars Rs. 10	...	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	6	7
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	94	96
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	...	16

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association on March 3, 1931).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the auction of the 3rd instant totalled 2,061,074 lbs. **NUWERA ELIVA AND MATURATA.** Some fine invoices were available for which competition was keen and a dearer tendency prevailed. **HIGH GROWN.** For those teas which showed improved quality demand was active otherwise offerings met with irregular support and prices moved in buyers' favour. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Quality was satisfactory but demand was poor particularly for Broken Orange Pekoe, a large number of lines being withdrawn without offers. Leaf grades were in moderate demand at a decline of 1

to 3 cents. **LOW GROWN.** There was a fairly general demand but only at a lower level of prices. Broken Orange Pekoes declined about 4 cents other grades were 1 to 3 cents lower. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.** Finest quality fannings were well competed for but other kinds as well as dusts were generally lower.

South Indian Teas in Auction of February 24, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates				Total lbs.	Average
Sothuparai ...	...	...	...	12,044	1·14
Karandy Valley ...	...	...	...	7,626	54
Manalaroo ...	...	...	...	4,590	52

RUBBER.—There was a very good demand for the 224 tons offered at the Auction held on February 26, 1931 and prices were practically on the same level as last week. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet was in good demand at 15½ cents which was a drop of a half cent on the last Auction price. Off and Inferior sorts showed a similar decline. There was a slightly better enquiry for inferior quality Sheet, which must be quoted a half cent dearer. All grades of Crêpe were in good demand and sold at last week's rates. There was again a very good market for all sorts of Scrap Crêpe. Good Browns being a half cent dearer at 14½ cents whilst all other sorts showed no change in prices. The demand for Scrap was again poor although the amount on offer was very small and 8 cents was the best offered for No. 1 parcels.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

February 22, 1931 to March 7, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	82·13	82·13	24. Coonoor ...	...	46·42	46·42
2. Kalthurity.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri ...	...	63·73	63·73
3. Kallar Edge.	...	152·08	152·08	26. Ootacamund.	0·03	57·01	57·04
4. Koney ...	6·54	123·40	123·94	27. Yercaud ...	...	65·20	65·20
5. Pattanapura.	...	111·58	111·58	28. Mango Range ...	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam ...	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala ...	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	0·63	75·68	76·31
7. Peermade ...	1·03	198·53	199·56	31. CALICUT ...	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford ...	...	241·09	241·09	32. Kuttiyadi ...	...	131·86	131·86
9. V'periyar ...	...	95·83	95·83	33. Vayitri ...	...	155·15	155·15
10. Kalaar ...	...	220·14	220·14	34. Manantoddi.	...	102·38	102·38
11. Chittuvurrai	0·68	54·37	55·05	35. Billigiris ...	0·11	83·80	83·91
12. Bodr'KANUR	...	26·76	26·76	36. Sidapur ...	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN ...	...	113·77	113·77	37. Pollibetia ...	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply ...	0·37	140·25	140·62	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	0·76	122·02	122·78	39. Saklaspur ...	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	0·28	187·42	187·70	40. Kadamanie ...	...	230·07	230·07
17. POLLACHIR	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete ...	...	...	...
18. Neil'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonnur ...	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara ...	...	154·06	154·06	43. Merthisubgey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode ..	...	128·45	128·45	44. Kelagur ...	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur ...	...	98·49	98·49	45. Durgadbettta.	...	101·99	101·99
22. Naduvattam	0·33	125·73	126·06	46. MANGALORE ...	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	...	122·97	122·97	47. MADRAS ...	...	68·72	68·72

F=During the Fortnight. —

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930).

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 7]

March 28, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

A BRIEF reference was made in our last issue to the effect that Restriction of the Tea Crop scheme for 1931 had fallen through owing to the lack of the requisite support and in an article *Tea Restriction* published on page 140 of this number, a correspondent suggests measures whereby the existing crisis in the tea industry of India may be relieved.

This step has already been taken by the Planting Member in the Assam Council who asked the Local Government to request the Government of India to approach the Secretary of State in order that the duty of 4d. per pound on all foreign teas imported into the United Kingdom might be reimposed.

The Finance Member in reply, promised to bring the matter to the notice of the Government of India with the request that if they felt it was necessary, strong representation should be made to the Secretary of State for the protection of tea in India.

The same demand of preference for Empire Tea Industry was made in the House of Commons on March 17, when the Chancellor of the

Exchequer was asked by Mr. Oswald Lewis if, in view of the Restriction Scheme having fallen through, he would consider giving some preference to tea grown in the British Empire by means of a tax on foreign tea.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence replied that he could not anticipate the budget statement and on being further questioned whether Government would receive representations from the many important interests concerned, stated he required notice of this.

A review of last year's experience of the Restriction Scheme shows that 1930 stock figures are not a fair indication of the success or failure of the 1930 restriction as it takes some months for supplies to go forward from producing centres to the London market, so that some of the effects have been carried forward to the early months of the present year, and for that reason the Restriction Scheme, even pared down from 15 to 12 per cent, might have been effective in so far as keeping the stock figures from getting worse.

An optimistic view can, however, be taken of the prospects as even if the stock figures do not improve, they are not likely to get any worse—the popularity of tea as a beverage has been well maintained, and consumption can be expected to expand gradually in pace with the increasing population.

This rate of consumption could be considerably accelerated if active steps are taken to advertise tea as a beverage and one of the greatest needs of the tea industry to-day is a driving force for the expansion of existing markets and the capture of new ones.

In South India it is interesting to note that Rs. 7½ lakhs have been allotted in 1930-31 to popularize tea-drinking and if there is universal under-consumption, the blame must rest with those tea-producers who have not taken, or will not take, adequate steps to ensure the efficient marketing of their product for which extensive publicity is essential.

THE coffee section organized by The Coffee Board of Great Britain, was one of the most prominent features at the Cookery and Food Exhibition held in London last month. Although the space available was limited, a representative list of exhibitors participated including The Coffee Board of Great Britain (2 stands), the Government of India, H. M. East African Dependencies, etc.

Over 3,000 cups of coffee were given away daily to members of the general public, many thousands of packets and tins of coffee were sold and several large contracts booked.

Altogether the effort was an outstanding success and the subject of much favourable press comment.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

UGANDA TEA AND THE DIFFICULTIES TO BE OVERCOME

Tea from Uganda was for the first time sold in London in October when some 24 packages were auctioned; a further 2,100 lb. were offered later. Two kinds were offered—broken orange Pekoe and broken orange. The former attracted most attention and was secured by a well-known firm of London dealers at $11\frac{1}{4}$ d. per pound. The broken orange realized $9\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound. The prices were generally considered satisfactory for the quality of the tea offered, especially as the small quantity—an aggregate of only 2,156 lb.—put up for sale was not conducive to high bidding. The production of tea in Uganda is small, and it is grown successfully by European planters in the Mubende District, where is a ready local market and a small export to Kenya Colony. It is generally anticipated that the industry will assume very large proportions owing to labour conditions. According to *The Financial Times* the quality of Uganda tea has been subject to considerable variation. In the earlier stages of the industry one of the major difficulties encountered was the lack of facilities for manufacture, and also the absence of skilled supervision. This, to a large extent, has now been overcome. Experts from Ceylon have gone to Uganda, and under their guidance considerable progress has been made. The quality of the tea is, necessarily, still adversely affected by the youth of bushes. Upon maturity of the latter, improvement will probably be shown in the former. The elevation at which the bushes are grown in Uganda is about 4,000 ft. With well-equipped factories and expert knowledge, there is no reason why the quality of the crop should not be as good as high-grown Southern Indian tea, to which the best samples sent to London have been similar. The chief difficulties to be overcome before the export of Uganda tea can become a commercial proposition of any magnitude, are the recruitment of suitable labour and the high cost of transport to England. This latter obstacle, it is feared, may prove a stumbling block to the development of the overseas trade in the commodity, the removal of which will prove far from easy. With the improvement in the quality of the tea to be shipped, the transport problem will become still more acute. Tea from Ceylon and India is always brought over in holds specially reserved for that purpose. In the case of high-grade tea the results of packing in a general hold are most deleterious, so that when Uganda teas have acquired fine flavour, no doubt, great care will be taken to utilize air-tight packages and thus avoid the risk of taint from other cargo.

—*The Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal.*

TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM

Before the extensive use of wireless in the United States, the commercial development of tantalum had been very small and spasmodic. The demand for a cheap and simple means for converting alternating electric current into direct, however, drew attention to the possibilities of metallic tantalum. This demand for the metal led to its production on a much larger scale than hitherto, thus making it available for other commercial uses and enabling its properties to be more thoroughly investigated than had hitherto been possible. The metal is stated to be suitable for many chemical, physical and industrial purposes for which it has become a rival to platinum.

The Imperial Institute has just issued a monograph¹ on this rare metal, and its less-known sister metal, niobium, giving a considerable

¹ *The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries—Tantalum and Niobium.* Published by H. M. Stationery Office, London, 1930, price 6d.

amount of information concerning the properties and uses of both. The book is devoted mainly to descriptions of the more important occurrences of tantalum and niobium minerals, the chief sources of supply being Western and North Australia.—*The Board of Trade Journal*.

MR. ERIC MILLER'S ANNUAL SURVEY

The rubber industry always looks forward to Mr. Eric Miller's annual pronouncements on the rubber situation, none the less because they are almost invariably infused with a spirit of optimism. Some critics may complain that Mr. Miller will find a silver streak in the blackest cloud, but if there be any truth in this insinuation, it is a fault on the right side in a period of acute depression. No good ever came of taking the gloomier view of a bad situation. Let us therefore be grateful to Mr. Miller for any assurances he can give us, especially when his encouragement is supported by arguments which we can analyse for ourselves. Thus, in his speech to the shareholders of the United Serdang (Sumatra) Rubber Plantations at the general meeting last month, he not only explained the abnormal excess of rubber production over consumption, but showed why the causes which brought this about are unlikely to be repeated in the year ahead. He said: 'The output of the motor industry in the United States and Canada was running ahead of normal needs in 1929, but, even allowing for that, the contraction of their output in 1930 has been of exceptional significance to the rubber industry. In 1929 they manufactured over 5,000,000 motor-vehicles, and in 1930 only 3,500,000, representing a decrease in tyre requirements of about 9,000,000, equivalent to nearly 50,000 tons of rubber. The 1930 sales of tyres for replacement purposes in the United States declined by about 6,000,000 compared with 1929, equivalent to over 30,000 tons of rubber, notwithstanding the fact that the consumption of petrol during 1930 has been higher than it was during 1929.' The inference is plain. The average car-owner has been deferring the renewal of worn-out tyres to the extreme limit. It is to the falling-off of the sale of tyres for replacement purposes that the drop in consumption of rubber can be traced to a substantial degree.

—*Rubber Age*.

* * * *

TYRE RENEWALS A NECESSITY IN 1931

The most thrifty of car-owners, however, cannot go on using worn-out tyres indefinitely. There must come a time when replacement is compulsory, and that time, according to the most authoritative opinion, in America, has been reached. Nor is it only in the United States that this economy has been practised. As we pointed out in these notes last month, the inducement to run tyres longer than their condition justifies, is as strong in this country as in America and the proportion of tyres on the road that are a danger to their users and to the public alike, must be very high. It is as well, therefore, that the new road regulations have taken some cognisance of the increased risk that motorists incur in driving with defective tyres. Touching on this subject, Mr. Miller said: 'One of the leading American tyre-manufacturers recently organized an examination of the tyres on all cars standing in a representative number of parking places in over 50 cities, and found that about half the tyres were really in need of replacement, judged by ordinary standards of prudence and safety. There are many unsafe tyres on the roads of this country, too, and there is no doubt that the slump has been responsible for a world-wide postponement of necessary tyre replacement. Tyre prices have just been substantially reduced by

many leading manufacturers, and overdue purchases should thus be encouraged. The cost per tyre mile is now at the lowest point on record, but sales prospects in 1931 are to a large extent bound up with the trend of trade in general.' Coupled with these prospects is the undoubted fact that the reduced tapping on most of the larger European-owned estates will have an appreciable influence upon the reduction of stocks before the year is out, so that an approximate balance between supply and demand may be nearer to attainment than the Jeremiahs would have us believe.

—*Rubber Age.*

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THE COOLIES' ALPHABET

'A' is the 'Arisi' upon which they thrive
 'B' is the 'Betel' which keeps 'em alive
 'C' is the 'Cash' which buys 'A' and 'B'
 'D' is the 'Doré' who gives them their 'C'
 'E' is the 'Ele'. 'In' rubber we spray it
 'F' they have not got because they cannot say it
 'G' is 'Gopalen' who makes master's tea
 'H' is 'Hd. Kangany' who makes up to 'G'
 'I' is 'Ishtam' or what 'H' said to 'G'
 'J' is 'Jathi' or 'Jat' as *we* say
 'K' is 'Kadan Karen' found in every kind of 'J'
 'L' is 'Laiam', it might also mean smell
 'M' is 'Mesan' who built us our 'L'
 'N' is their 'Nadu' or 'Wee But and BeN'
 'O' is 'Odi pon'al' who runs off to 'N'
 'P' is 'Peria Doré' or, for short, P.D.
 'Q' was forgotten when they wrote their 'A.B.C.'
 'R' is 'Rua' without which they can't go far
 'S' is their 'Swami' whom they 'capat' with 'R'
 'T' is 'Te-vali' a pretty sight to see
 'U' are the 'udupūs' they wear to go to 'T'
 'V' is 'Veile' and now it seems to me though
 'W' they have not got it begins the same as 'V'
 'X' I cannot find, they've missed it I don't know 'Y'
 'Y' is 'Yen', now don't this pun descry.

J. A. D.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

By courtesy of the Manager of the Madras Branch, we are enabled to reproduce the following telegram from its London Office incorporating the results of the last year's working :—

Final Dividend declared 8 per cent less Income-Tax making 16 per cent for the year.

Amount carried forward £ 166,000.

Amount carried to Reserve £ 20,000.

Amount written off Landed and House Property Account £ 10,000.

ROPEWAYS

By Notification No. 100, *Fort St. George Gazette*, March 3, 1931, all persons employed in constructing, maintaining, dismantling, altering or repairing aerial ropeways have been brought within the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, Act VIII of 1923.

NOW IS THE TIME!

COLOURED RUBBER FOR SEASIDE PARADES

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BRIGHTEN OUR PLEASURE RESORTS AND THE RUBBER INDUSTRY

Our article under this heading last month, writes the *Rubber Age*, dealing with the scope for expansion by encouraging the golosh habit, has attracted considerable interest, and it was our intention to follow it with a second contribution covering the present statistical position of the golosh trade with practical comments written by a well-known authority on the commercial side of the rubber industry. Unavoidable circumstances, however, have delayed the receipt of this article, and so it must be held over for a future issue. Meanwhile, one or two fresh subjects present themselves as being applicable to this pressing question of widening the uses of rubber in the interests of consumers and producers alike, for be it remembered that the ills afflicting both sections are due to the same cause—under-consumption of rubber goods due to the world's shrinkage of purchasing power. And, in parenthesis, it may be regretted that the great opportunity furnished by the record drop in the price of the raw material has not been utilised in an endeavour by large-scale production to bring down the cost of rubber paving and flooring to a level that would permit of popular competition with surfacing materials in general use. In the first category, the Rubber Growers' Association did propound a scheme whereby a certain proportion of current supplies of rubber would be kept off the market and allocated to rubber roadways at a uniform low rate, but the suggestion was not supported, although there was nothing inherently impracticable in it. Then again, we understand, a good deal of research work has been directed towards evolving a cheaper class of rubber flooring, to sell at prices approximating to those of the better types of linoleum, but this, in turn, has failed to reach a commercial stage. The success of either of them might have sufficed to have tided over the period of slump, and to have added a source of unlimited expansion to the uses of rubber.

Fortunately, the cause of rubber roadways has found support outside the industry itself, and from a quarter which has not been conspicuous for original enterprises. One does not look to municipal bodies to take the initiative in testing new ideas, and hence our congratulations are due to the Hastings Town Council for having adopted what the local Press rightly describes as 'a unique scheme' for improving a central stretch of the parade of this favourite watering place. This section of the promenade has been covered for many years with black asphalt, 'hollow in many places and holding water,' and its monotony has been relieved at intervals by a number of small garden enclosures, which an alderman condemned as 'miniature cemeteries,' which merely obstructed the flow of pedestrians. These are all to be swept away, and in order to avoid sameness in an unbroken surface, brightness is to be infused by the harmonies of a rubber pavement.

Surely the average municipal body, presented with such revolutionary proposals, would have turned down the scheme at sight! Plain asphalt and fenced-in shrubberies have been the recognised adornments of seaside fronts since Queen Victoria ascended the throne: they have a fine English tradition behind them, and who would mind a few potholes and puddles when they were given such bracing air and a military band? Not so the Hastings Council. Here was a novel idea which would make the

promenade unlike any of its rivals—a pleasure to the eye and to the feet, and a permanent one, moreover, for one councillor properly recalled the fact that a rubber approach to a London terminus had been laid down twenty years ago and showed scarcely any signs of wear. A further tribute to the qualities of rubber is given in the first recommendation of the admirable report drawn up by the borough engineer and adopted by the council, and is worth quoting : '(1) A rubber paving in colours which, in my opinion, is superior to any other form, being non-slippery, particularly easy for the feet, hard-wearing, practically noiseless and obtainable in such soft colours as cannot be seen in other materials.' That is as handsome a testimonial for rubber-paving as the most enthusiastic champion could have penned !

The borough engineer's report hands out further bouquets to rubber in his comparison with alternative suggestions, such as Terrazzo and coloured concrete which are 'without the comfort and quietness that pertains to rubber.' Such faith must not be disappointed : A trial section is to be laid down by one of the most successful pioneers of rubber-paving, and hence a responsibility will rest upon this firm to provide such a demonstration as will carry conviction to all other seacoast town councils. The spirit of emulation is strong in these places, and what Hastings achieves to-day, Eastbourne and Brighton may copy to-morrow. If full advantage is taken of this opportunity, coloured rubber promenades may girdle our shores wherever a self-respecting watering place exists !

The need for making our seaside resorts more attractive, has long been recognized by their publicity departments, if the great exodus of holiday-makers abroad every summer is to be checked and the good-natured British public is to be persuaded that a good time can be enjoyed in their own native land. To do this, the appeal must be made to the eye as well as to the desire for distraction. The stereotyped English promenade is not calculated to stir the æsthetic senses.

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TEA 50 AND 100 YEARS AGO

Though tea-drinking in this country is such a comparatively recent development in the life of the public, it is of more than passing interest to read in certain old journals extracts from their columns, in some cases of a hundred years, and in others of fifty years' ago. For instance, in a recent issue of the *Spectator*, it is said that the price of tea then was between 6s. and 7s. per lb.

The *per capita* consumption then was about one pound and a half ; now it is 9 lbs., and, as the article states, that was about one-quarter of an ounce a day for every family of four persons. Extracts from the article are as follows :

IN PRAISE OF TEA

'The urn, we regret to say it, no longer sends up its steamy column ; we are no longer refreshed by the view of its classic form, nor by the substantial promise of 'drink and fill again' that it held out. The elegant accompaniment of the poet's tea-table, and of the tea-table of our youth, has been relegated to the ante-room. On the importance of a cheap tea in a moral point of view, we think too little stress has been hitherto laid. It is the peculiarity of that delicate beverage that '*it cheers, but not inebriates*' —that it affords, not to the sedentary and the studious only, but to all classes, a nervous stimulus without which, unless in the case of a few

happily-born individuals; it seems' almost impossible for dull and laggard humanity to travel on its way rejoicing ; and it does so without any of the inconveniences which accompany other stimuli. Indeed, tea-drinkers are rarely if ever, dram-drinkers. We need not say what dram-drinkers are. This consideration ought to weigh a little with Government in their conclusions respecting this question.

'We are persuaded that the revenue—to speak to the 'business and bosoms' of Ministers—would not suffer. During the last thirty years, the consumption of tea has increased from six millions to about thirty millions of pounds ; yet what is the latter quantity to the demands of the community ?—about one pound and a half per head ; that is, about one-quarter of an ounce a day for every family of four persons ! If tea were two shillings instead of six or seven shillings, can it be doubted that the consumption of an article which all relish, and in which all would *indulge* could they compass it, would be augmented fourfold ?'

PRICES IN THE OLD DAYS

A provincial paper, the *Coventry Herald*, recalls that one of its issues of 1829 contained an advertisement of the price of green and black teas and coffees, sold by a local storekeeper. The cheapest tea was Bohea, which sold for 3s. per lb., while Fine Gunpowder Hyson was as much as 12s. per lb. The strong Congou at 4s. 8d. per lb., and fine strong, substantial Congou at 5s. were particularly recommended to all large families, schools, innkeepers, etc. The price of coffee varied from 20d. per lb. to 2s. 4d., the names of the varieties including Plantation, Jamaica, Bourbon, and Java, Turkey, Dominica, and Mocha.

The London paper, *The Home and Colonial Mail*, makes an interesting feature in each issue of certain extracts which appeared in its columns fifty years ago, many of them of distinct interest to the tea trade. One such note reports that tea planting was being attempted in the Azores, while another mentions that the total supplies of Indian tea offered for sale on a certain day amounted to only 301 packages. Curiously enough, prices were not far from the level of the present day, for Pekoe sold for 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d. per lb., and broken Orange Pekoe for 2s. to 1s. 4d. per lb.

TEA OPPONENTS IN THOSE DAYS

Tea-drinking then, of course, was not such a feature of English life as it is to-day, and the above paper, in its issue of June 13, 1879, points out that 'owing to exaggerated medical opinion, adulteration, and the comparative high price of tea as against coffee, the demand for the former has not increased in anything like the same proportion as the latter. The British working man is impressed with the notion that tea gives him indigestion and unstrings his nerves ; not because this is the fact but for the simple reason that he but seldom tastes real tea. If good Indian tea were introduced to his notice, and its advantages duly pointed out, the sale of it would increase tenfold.'

Fifty years ago there was apparently the same desire as is shown to-day in certain quarters to give a bonus to tea purchasers, and the following quotation from an issue of September, 1879, is perhaps of more than usual interest.

OLD TIME BONUSES

'Amongst the inducements held out to purchasers of tea by the retailer, that of presenting small presents of books and fancy articles has been tried. A city tea-dealer has determined to outstrip his competitors on

this score. Having purchased a number of young ponies, he offers these animals by way of a bonus to those of his customers who purchase 150 pounds of tea. As this is rather in excess of the average quantity taken into consumption by one family, the tea dealer is no doubt under the impression that a select circle of friends might procure a pony on advantageous terms were they to club together for the purchase of the requisite quantity of tea.'—H.C.D.—(*In the 'Tea and Coffee Trade Journal'.*)

COFFEE-GROWING IN COSTA RICA

This little Central American republic, writes Mr. V. T. Murray in *Chambers' Journal* flanked on its south by Panama, and on its north by Nicaragua, is a country where large fortunes in coffee-growing have been made. In area it is about half the size of England and Scotland. Its population numbers about half a million. Its climate, on the uplands, is exceedingly healthy, with a perfect temperature, in which neither excessive heat nor cold is felt; if the sun is hot during the day, the nights are always cool. The scenery of Costa Rica with its mountains, which rise from eleven to nearly thirteen thousand feet, must be among the most beautiful in the world.

By far the greater part of the country is still undeveloped. Acres and acres of virgin forest await exploitation; but the Costa Ricans are not naturally enterprising, and they have not yet conceived the idea that roads are a first necessity in the development of land. Even old-established farms, except for a few situated on the central plateau, are devoid of roads; and produce has to be conveyed to market or to the railway by means of ox-carts driven over pathless tracts, which are subject to all the vicissitudes of torrential rain or baking sun.

Maize, sugar—of which there is a large local industry—and, on the lower levels, bananas and cocoa, are among the products of Costa Rica; but it is pre-eminently a coffee-growing country. And, for the encouragement of those either engaged in farming or with any idea of doing so, it may be stated that because Costa Rican coffee is superior to any other in quality, and therefore fetches a higher market price, and because, furthermore, the area for best quality coffee is limited in extent, the world demand for this particular grade is always likely to exceed the supply.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR GROWERS

The government is wise enough to recognize wherein its prosperity lies, and its policy is one of the most marked encouragement to growers. It has lately adopted and put into execution two sound and modern schemes for their financial assistance. The first, inaugurated several years ago, was specially designed for the encouragement of small growers, and is as follows: When an application for financial assistance has been made, the government sends down an inspector to report upon the proposed plantation. If he finds the land suitable for coffee-growing, and the owner of it a person of industry and integrity, the National Bank will advance a sum sufficiently large to cover all initial expenses, i.e., sowing, planting, livestock, buildings, etc. Visits of inspection will be paid during the four years which must elapse before the plantation comes into bearing in order to ensure that government money is not being wasted; and the advance is repaid on a fourteen-year basis, plus a moderate rate of interest.

In 1926 the government founded a Mortgage Bank, the function of which is to advance sums of money to estates making application which have been inspected, approved and valued. These sums amount to not more than half the value of the estate, estimated by a specially appointed government official. Repayment, in this case, is arranged on an amortization basis, and in such manner that amortization and interest repay the loan, usually in twenty years, but in a longer period and at lower interest if so desired by the applicant. This is managed by giving the mortgagor the advantage of compounding upon the sums which he repays to the bank quarterly in the shape of amortization and interest, the Bank being a non-money-making concern, and organized entirely in the interest of the coffee-grower. One per cent upon the loans is found to be sufficient to cover the running expenses of the scheme.

The most famous coffee-growing district in the country is known as the Central Plateau. This is situated on what may be called the ridge between the Pacific and the Atlantic slopes, and covers, roughly, a radius of ten miles around San José, the capital town. Within this area lies the Tres Ríos district, whose crops usually fetch a higher price in the London market than that of any other coffee in the world. The average elevation for first quality coffee is about three thousand feet.

STARTING THE PLANTATION

Some account of the life-history of the coffee-bean may be of interest. The bean is sown in seed-beds, and transplanted from these to its permanent situation soon after its first lateral twigs have developed. Here it will put forth its glossy dark green leaves, its baby twigs will become branches, and in four years, when it begins to bear, the tree will have attained to a height of about twelve feet. According to district, coffee flowers from March till June, and a plantation in full flower with its fragile, white, highly-scented blossom, is a very beautiful sight. The blossom lasts for a very short time, and the berry is dependent for its setting on fine still weather. Wind or heavy rain during the short necessary period will prevent fertilization. Once it is set, however, it is proof against anything but violent storms; and Costa Rica is so sheltered by its mountains as to experience no great winds. Again dependent upon district, the berry will be ready for picking from September till November, or even on some farms on the Atlantic slope till well into the new year. All picking, however, is over, and coffee shipped by the end of February.

PICKING AND PROCESSING

Gathering is done by hand, and during the harvesting season, whole families will be employed. One may see them going forth, men, women, and children, to the 'cafetales,' with their baskets slung round their waist, barefooted and lightly clad, carrying with them the familiar bottle containing cold black coffee, tortillas—a kind of pancake made with maize—and black beans, which comestibles form their daily fare. School holidays are so arranged in the coffee districts as to set the children free for picking. Payment for this work is made according to measure.

At the end of the working day the baskets are emptied into ox-carts, which carry them to the *beneficio*, or curing plant, attached to all big coffee estates, where the necessary machinery for dealing with the bean is to be found.

The selection and cleaning process finished, the coffee is ready to be turned out on to the patio—a series of level cement yards—where it is left to dry in the sun. Part of the crop is shipped with the parchment covering

known as *pergамиno* still adhering to the grain ; this will be further cleaned and polished in London by those firms which make a speciality of the business, before it is put on the market. The coffee not shipped in *pergамиno*, if insufficiently sun-dried—and on the Atlantic slope of Costa Rica the rainfall is heavy—goes through a hot-air dryer, where all superfluous moisture is driven off. It then passes through a husking machine. Finally the coffee is put through a grader or classifier, which separates the beans according to size and shape, and then discharges them, through a delivery shoot, into sacks. This is known as 'clean coffee,' and is ready for shipment to England in sacks weighing a hundred and fifty pounds each.

It is obvious from the foregoing description that water is a necessity for a ranch which 'treats' its own coffee. The estate known to the present writer, situated at an elevation of three thousand feet above sea-level on the Atlantic slope of Costa Rica, an estate which produces first-grade coffee, is intersected by three rivers. One of these is used as the source of power for running all machinery in the *beneficio*. A river of no size from bank to bank, but swiftly flowing from its source in the mountains beyond, it actuates a pelton wheel, which drives the whole installation of coffee machinery, and, in addition, a sugar-cane-crushing mill, a sawmill, a planer, and a dynamo which supplies very full electric lighting to the ranch house and other buildings on the estate.

THE PLANTATION

A coffee plantation requires constant attention. After the ground has been in use for some time it should be fertilized annually—and it will be found that fertilization greatly increases the size of the berry. The trees should be kept free of weeds, and the branches pruned. A plantation, once established, is perennial. There are plantations in the country which have been worked by three or four successive generations ; and the successful coffee-grower will make, on a conservative estimate, a net profit of fifteen pounds an acre on his crop.

Labor in Costa Rica is very good on the whole, and, compared with that at home, not expensive. On the estate known to the writer a coffee picker will average three to four *colones* a day—a colone being equal at present rate of exchange to a shilling ; and a man employed on the more or less skilled labor of treating coffee in the *beneficio* will earn from five to seven *colones* a day.

The standard of living is low. The peons inhabit small wooden houses or shacks containing such scarce degree of comfort as is not tolerated by the colored people who are employed in cocoa and banana plantations at sea-level. Their food, which, in the outlying districts, is purchased and retailed to them by the 'patron,' varies hardly at all ; they have no sanitary conveniences of any kind, and depend on the river for drinking-water and washing. Their beds consist of wooden planks attached to the wall of the house, with perhaps a blanket or sacks thrown upon them, while of any kind of night-clothes they are entirely innocent.

The expenses of a laborer in the country districts are, therefore, few. He pays no rent, and his fuel, namely wood, is free ; those people who have any idea of management can be exceedingly comfortable, but owing to entire lack of *savoir-faire*, they mostly present a picture of abject poverty.

The question of supply of labor, however, is likely to become a problem in the near future, for plantations are increasing in inverse ratio to the

population. This is not due to any lack of fecundity on the part of the peon, but to the high rate of infant mortality. A low standard of living may mean survival of the fittest, but it takes heavy toll of the less well-armed. Superstition is so ingrained in the Costa Rican peasant that he clings to his old remedies.

IMPROVEMENTS BEGUN

The government, however, has awakened to the fact that a country's prosperity depends on its population. For the last couple of decades, too, that wonderful and humane institution known as the Rockefeller Institute has done excellent work in the country, notably towards combating the decimating parasitical disease of ankylostomiasis or hookworm, which is so prevalent in all tropical countries. The Institute, which has its Costa Rican headquarters in San José, gives both advice and medicine gratis; and it is usual in outlying districts for the patron to keep by him a store of remedies for the various parasitical diseases, and dole them out to his employees as desired. Should the patron also be endowed with some medical knowledge, so much the better.

Malaria is prevalent in the lowlands, but becomes less and less known as the mountainous district is reached. Of the farm known to the present writer, it is true to say that no single case of fever has occurred for many years, and that the mosquito seems to be non-existent. As regards mere irritation and pestiferous property, its place is taken by a small brown fly, which attacks newcomers remorselessly.

In conclusion, it may be stated that one great advantage to a Briton who adopts coffee-farming as a livelihood in Costa Rica is the accessibility of the country. Sixteen days out from Avonmouth, if boats come direct, or eighteen days, if—as Messrs. Elders and Fyffes are now running—*via* Barbados and Trinidad, sees you at Port Limón; and from there an eight-hours' train journey, on a wonderfully engineered and very beautiful single line, takes you to San José.

It may also be added that Costa Rica does not mean complete isolation, or even the renunciation of the amenities of civilization, for quite a numerous foreign population, both British and American, is to be found in San José. This centre boasts a golf club, with tennis-courts, a theatre, and a social club, not to mention excellent shops, cinemas, etc.; and railway travel is so cheap that the most cheese-paring farmer may allow himself frequent visits to the capital.

: O :

TEA PROPAGANDA

[We have received the following letter from Mr. R. J. McMullin which we are publishing below as being an article of interest to Tea Planters in general.]

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle.'

SIR,

Some months ago when there was a fear that the price of tea was going to fall, a large number of letters were published in your issues giving various suggestions as to the best means of improving the situation, many of which advocated making a more strenuous effort to extend the market.

Since then, after passing through some vicissitudes, the tea market appears to have definitely settled down to increasing depression and it behoves us to again review the position.

There is no doubt that the potential market for tea is unlimited and therefore it would seem that the policy that should be adopted is to push the sale of tea in every direction possible, with the utmost diligence.

In India alone were we able to dispose of an average of one pound per head of population, there would be very little to be exported, and now that there appears to be a chance of better relations between the political parties in India and the removal of boycott, there should be a very good opportunity of a real effort taking effect.

It is very easy to criticize especially when a number of controlling factors are obscure to the critic and destructive criticism is to be deprecated; but without criticism, if it is of a constructive and helpful nature, there can be no progress, and unless apparent faults are pointed out there is a possibility of those faults going unnoticed. Therefore I venture to write this with the knowledge that there are many difficulties and points of which I am in ignorance.

Whilst in England on leave, I was interested in studying the many solutions offered from all directions for the relief of the serious general depression in business which is causing so much anxiety and distress and I had the privilege of being able to discuss the situation and suggested remedies with a number of people of different stations and interests. From these discussions and the study of the newspapers it appeared to me that the causes were due not to any one particular factor but to the combination of very many.

There was however one very significant point raised which seemed to stand out very much clearer than the others and on which the Prince of Wales laid stress in a speech to the Shop Assistants' Association (I believe), yet, though there is a great deal of indignation about other recognized defects no comment was made by the press, or other propaganda mediums. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and some of the Cabinet Ministers have also hinted very pointedly at this falling on the part of British producers seemingly without any very particular notice being taken.

The point I refer to is the bad methods of marketing their goods practised by British manufacturers, a point which should be very clear to the observant in this part of the world.

It is not necessary to go into details about this except with regard to our own business, which is tea production, and as it seems to be a vital matter it may be helpful to consider it.

In England I was struck with the difficulty of getting satisfactory tea and all my friends there agreed about this. And I must add to this 'grouche' by saying the same remark applies to that which I have been compelled to drink at restaurants and public tea-drinking places in this part of the world.

This is due I feel to the method of blending which does not seem to be done so much for the consumer as for the profit of the distributor. In fact I have frequently been met with the information that the distributor educates his customers to like the tea he gives them, rather than educating them to drink tea by giving them what they like.

This programme may be suitable for the long suffering British who having got the tea-drinking habit find it difficult to give it up and so content themselves with what they can get. But is it the way to persuade people who have not acquired a taste for tea to want it?

Americans I spoke to, told me that they drink iced drinks in America of which iced tea is a fairly popular one but they cannot get a suitable kind to make it as they like it and when I gave them a pure sample from

S. India, they remarked that if they could get something like that they would buy any amount.

The people I talked to are ordinary individuals and it may be that they do not represent the general opinion but we know that a lot of money is being spent yearly by the Tea Cess Committee to push tea in America without much apparent results, and it may then be that this is being done by trying to force them to drink blended tea hot, as we drink it. If this is so, it must be something of a wasted effort because I was assured that at the Americans will not drink hot tea as they do not fancy hot drinks. Why then should they not be given what they want instead of our wasting money and effort, trying to educate them to do what they do not want to do?

I heard somewhat the same story from Paris where I was told there was quite a good demand for good tea at a reasonable price which at present is not procurable though there is a company who is apparently trying to educate their unwilling tastes; and probably the other European countries are suffering in the same way.

It seems to me then that one of the principles to guide us should be to study the tastes of our prospective customers and try to give them what they like, rather than as we so readily seem to do with all our products, telling them that these are the kind of goods we make which they must either take or leave as we do not propose to alter our methods. The art of trade as generally accepted by other countries is to persuade customers to deal with them because they want to, rather than because they have got to.

Probably all this is well reorganized by those responsible for the marketing of our particular product but as it appears to be only just being grasped by the general run of British producers it may be that a very important factor is being overlooked and I have therefore ventured to give it a definition in the hope that it may possibly be a help in extending the market for tea.

ARNAKAL ESTATE, VANDIPERIYAR,
March 15, 1931.

Yours truly,
R. J. McMULLIN.

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NEW BIBBY LINER M. V. WORCESTERSHIRE

The new Bibby motor passenger liner *Worcestershire* arrived in the Mersey yesterday morning, and is due to commence her maiden voyage on the company's service from Liverpool to Marseilles, Port Said, Port Sudan, Colombo and Rangoon early next month. She is the fourth motor liner to have been built for the Bibby Line by the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Ltd., since 1926, her predecessors being the *Shropshire*, *Cheshire* and *Staffordshire*, which she closely resembles in her main features. She was launched on October 8 last year. Improvements introduced in the *Worcestershire* include larger deck space and the rearrangement of the public rooms to add to the comfort of the passengers.

The principal dimensions of the *Worcestershire* are:—Length, overall, 502ft. ; breadth, moulded, 64ft. ; depth, moulded, 36ft. 6in. to upper deck. The vessel is of the poop, bridge and forecastle type, with cruiser stern and straight stem, and is built to Lloyd's 100 A. 1 Class 'Full Scantling Vessel,' rigged as a fore and aft schooner with four raking pole masts and a single funnel amidships in keeping with the usual practice of the Bibby Line.

The accommodation, which is for first-class passengers only, is disposed on the four upper decks amidships, principally in deckhouses, giving the maximum light and air, arranged for one, two and three-berth rooms, there being a large number of one and two-berth rooms. State rooms are arranged on the Bibby cabin principle, with cot berths throughout the accommodation. A wash-basin with fresh water laid on is fitted in all state-rooms. A large room is reserved for nurses, and a room for Ayahs.

PUBLIC ROOMS

The public rooms—which consist of a drawing room, lounge, verandah and smoke-room—are large and airy apartments situated on the top decks, while the dining saloon is in the bridge-house forward.

The drawing room is a handsome painted apartment in the Adam's period, fitted with an electric fireplace, grand piano and furniture to harmonize. The lounge is a spacious room, decorated in the Georgian style, with grand piano and furniture to harmonize, and having walls of polished mahogany with dull gold ornamentations, while the smoke-room is panelled and furnished in oak of Jacobean design; access to the verandah is through the aft end of the smoke-room. Suitable offices are provided in the vicinity of the public rooms. The three pianos on board the vessel, of different types for particular needs, have been supplied by Messrs. John Strohmenger and Sons, Ltd.

The verandah is open at the aft end and is fitted with an ornamental teak balustrade, with furniture of teak of a suitable design, and large windows give a clear view over the ship's sides. The dining saloon, of Jacobean design, is panelled in polished oak, with oak beams and white panelled ceiling. Seating accommodation is provided for the full complement of passengers at one sitting.

Large open spaces are provided for promenading, dancing and deck games, including deck tennis, &c., and skittle alleys, specially arranged in the forward well. A suitably appointed barber's shop is conveniently situated amidships on bridge deck, and a surgery with up-to-date equipment is fitted adjacent to doctor's room. For the convenience of passengers, a large laundry fully equipped with the latest machinery is situated on the promenade deck aft. The passengers', officers' and crew's accommodation is ventilated by an arrangement of electric supply and exhaust-fans, also by natural ventilation. Numerous electric flail-fans are fitted in all the public rooms, also a cabin fan to each state-room. A system of steam and electric heating for the public rooms, state-rooms and crew's accommodation is installed.

REFRIGERATED CHAMBERS

Adjacent to the dining saloon are the kitchen, pantries, bar, baker's and butcher's shops, &c., fitted with electrical and coal-fired cooking appliances of the latest type.

Ample accommodation is provided for fresh provisions for passengers and crew, as the capacity of the refrigerated provision chambers in the middle deck amounts to 8,655 cubic feet. These chambers, together with three special cargo-rooms of 1,510 cubic feet capacity, and ice-making plant capable of producing 14 cwt. per day, are cooled by means of two vertical double-acting CO₂ machines each coupled to an electric motor. The whole of the plant has been supplied and erected by the makers, Messrs. J. & E. Hall, Ltd. The cooling of the chambers is effected by externally galvanized brine grids. These are placed on the roofs and sides of the low temperature rooms for meat, fish, butter and poultry, and on the

sides only for the vegetable and fruit-rooms and cargo spaces. Connected also to the main plant is a 40-gallon water-cooler fitted adjacent to the provision rooms. Independent of the main plant there are three cold cupboards in isolated positions on the promenade and upper decks, namely one wine-cooling cupboard in the smoke-room; one 70 cubic foot cupboard and one 40-cubic foot cupboard in the upper deck passenger accommodation. Each of these is coupled to a Hallmark automatic electric compressor, the running of which is thermo-electrically controlled from the cupboard to which it is coupled.

MACHINERY DETAILS

Two electric silent running winches are installed at each of six large cargo hatches, special heavy derrick is fitted at No. 2 cargo hatch capable of lifting a load of 35 tons, and in addition, numerous Derricks at masts and derrick posts. The vessel is electrically lighted throughout, current being supplied by three powerful Diesel electric generators, placed in engine-room. These generators also supply power to various auxiliary machines, deck machinery, &c. A complete system of electric bells is fitted in state-rooms, public rooms and other offices. A projector for use in Suez Canal is arranged at stem. An emergency dynamo, driven by a heavy oil-engine for supplying power for night lights and wireless telegraphy, is fitted on promenade deck aft. There are two motor life-boats, included in the ship's complement of life-boats one of which is equipped with a complete wireless transmitting and receiving outfit. This is of Marconi type, as are the main valve transmitting and receiving apparatus for long and short-wave lengths and the direction finder installed on board.

The machinery, which has been constructed by the builders, consists of twin sets of Fairfield-Sulzer Diesel engines, each engine having eight working cylinders 28in. diameter by 39in. stroke, and together capable of developing 7,700 b.h.p. at 110 revolutions per minute. Two 3-stage main air compressors for injection air are driven by cranks at the forward end of each engine and scavenging air is supplied by two British Thomson-Houston motor driven blowers, each blower being capable of supplying the quantity of air required for two engines. The auxiliary machinery is electrically driven, power being obtained from three 210 k.w. Allen Diesel generator sets. A small Cochran boiler is also fitted for ship's heating and galley use.

Extract from 'The Journal of Commerce', dated February 18, 1931.

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SOVIET RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

[We take the following from the Five-day Bulletin of Economic Information issued by the U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce for Western Trade of Moscow. A hectare is equal to 2.471 acres.]

The recent decision of the Council of Labour and Defence regarding the increase of the area under cultivation of rubber-producing plants which have proved to be of industrial importance, evidences the close attention which is being given the development of this branch of industry. Within the next three or four years Soviet rubber plantations must cover an area of not less than 80-95,000 hectares (Tau-Sagys, 60-70,000 hectares and Guayula, 20-25,000 hectares). During the current year, 1,500 hectares will be set aside for the cultivation of Guayula. The People's Commissariat for Agriculture has been instructed to have not less than 200,000 gutta-percha

trees (Eikomin) planted within the next five years, and the Supreme Council of National Economy is to organise the production of rubber from Kendyr, the area under cultivation of which will be increased to 40,000 hectares during the current year. At the same time scientific research with regard to other rubber-bearing plants (Chondrilla, etc.) will be considerably increased.

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DISTRICT NOTES

WYNAAD

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Wynnaad Planters' Association held at 2.30 p.m., at Meppadi Club on Wednesday, March 4, 1931.

Present :

Messrs. R. N. W. Jodrell (*Chairman*), C. A. Rendle, H. S. Lake, T. Ryan, C. E. A. Ewart, E. R. Peachy, D. Bate, E. E. Eyre, H. Winterbotham, K. Rowe, F. H. Farmer, R. P. N. Swayne, T. P. Gould, B. M. Behr, B. St. J. Boulting and G. Bayzand (*Honorary Secretary*).

1. The Notice calling the meeting was read.
2. The minutes of the last meeting held on November 19, 1930 were taken as read and confirmed.

3. *Local Rates*.—A long discussion ensued regarding the future rates of pay for labourers and artizans and it was generally felt that owing to the present state of the tea market and the necessity for economy, and also to the fact that the cost of living for the labouring classes had fallen to so low a level, the existing rates would have to be reduced in the near future.

Mr. Behr proposed and Mr. Swayne seconded the following resolution which was carried :—' That the Wynnaad Labour Committee do meet and go into the question of rates of pay of coolies and artizans and the revision of our District Labour Rules'.

Letters from the Mysore and Coorg Planters' Associations on the rates of pay for coolies were read.

4. *Restriction*.—As no member had anything to say on this subject the matter was not discussed.

5. *Sports Club*.—The question of continuing the Sports Club as suggested by the South Travancore P. A. was turned down and the meeting saw no reason for altering its previous decision.

6. *Water Tax*.—The Hon. Secretary read a letter from The Planting Member, Mr. James, dated February 10, in which he advised deferring the execution of any agreement connected with this Tax pending the decision of the Revenue Board. Should further demands be received, the authorities concerned should be addressed informing them that the matter has been made the subject of an appeal and that an early reply is expected which is likely to be favourable to our claim.

7. *Roads*.—The fact that the future upkeep of the Chundale-Choladl section of the Calicut-Gudalur road was to be maintained by the P. W. D. was recorded with much satisfaction.

Chundale-Sullia's Battery Road.—Our representative on the Malabar District Board was addressed on November 27, 1930, regarding the very dangerous state of several bridges on this road. His reply in which he stated that he had already placed this matter before the President of the Board, and the answers which he had received to his interpellations were read to the meeting. The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the President of the District Board pointing out that although this subject and its urgency had been brought to his notice in November of last year, practically nothing had been done to remedy the hazardous situation and requesting the President to do all in his power to have the work expedited. It was noted with satisfaction that a sum of Rs. 5,625 had been sanctioned to carry out the immediate necessary repairs, but it was with apprehension that members visualised the state of the surface of this road during the coming monsoon, as no work whatsoever has been done to it during the past nine months.

8. *Resignations*.—The Honorary Secretary wrote to the Director, Upas Labour Department, as instructed and his reply dated January 12, was read to the meeting. A statement showing the acreage figures subscribing and of the acreages whose resignations have been confirmed will be posted to each District Association quarterly.

9. *Benevolent Fund.*—It was again pointed out by the Chairman how necessary it was that all members should subscribe because the calls upon the Fund have of late been very heavy, each case being most distressing. The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that with the exception of four members all had subscribed, making a total of Rs. 810. Doubtless those four would now see their way to making us 100 per cent subscribers.

10. *Election of the Honorary Secretary for the remainder of the current year.*—It was proposed by Mr. Boulbee and seconded by Mr. Behr and carried with acclamation that Mr. Naylor become Honorary Secretary until the Annual General Meeting.

Mr. Jodrell passed a hearty vote of thanks to the outgoing Honorary Secretary for the work that he had done. This transfer left a vacancy on the Committee whereupon Mr. Swayne was proposed by Mr. Behr, seconded by Mr. Gauld and unanimously elected.

11. *Correspondence : Affiliation with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute.*—The suggested proposals in regard to the affiliation of this Institute with the Upasi Tea Scientific Station were read, but before the meeting could express an opinion, the Hon. Secretary was asked to have copies sent to all members for perusal, the subject to be brought up at a later meeting.

Professor Tax.—The Association were prepared to support the proposals of the Nilgiri Planters' Association in its effort to induce Government to reconsider the imposition of this Tax upon Planters and the agricultural industry.

Tung Oil.—Read letter No. 10768, dated February 21, from the Secretary, Upasi. The Honorary Secretary said that he had written to ask whether 5 lbs. of this seed could be sent. As several members expressed a desire to experiment with this seed, it would on arrival be distributed.

Seats on Malabar District Board.—Letters regarding the reservation of two seats for Europeans on this Board were read, and it was noted that final representations would be made later.

12. With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated

G. BAYZAND,
Honorary Secretary.

R. N. W. JODRELL,
Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

SIR,

The daily papers recently reported that at a Meeting of the Assam Legislative Council, the Planting Member brought forward a proposal that on account of the difficulties from which the Indian Tea Industry is now suffering, the Assam Government should request the Home Government through the Secretary of State, that the former Preferential Import Duty on Tea should be re-imposed and a sum of four pence per pound was mentioned.

Only a few months ago the Home Government made representations to India with regard to duties on imported cotton goods and pointed out that these taxes bore hardly on trade between the two countries.

Although this met with no response, the fact that such an attempt was made, justifies us in encouraging our Representatives to use all the influence they can to develop better trade relations between the two countries with which our welfare is so closely bound up.

If Britain will help India to safeguard her tea trade, we in this country are then more likely to be ready to help Britain with her cotton or other trades.

We should request our Planting Member to strengthen the position of his opposite number in Assam by persuading the Madras Government to put forward a similar resolution asking for the re-imposition of the preferential Tea Duty at Home.

Yours, etc.,
J. W.

Nilgiris,
March 12, 1931.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.							
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Feb. 26, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 26, 1931	January 1 to Feb. 26, 1930	s.	d.	s.	d.
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, February 26 and March 5, 1931, respectively)				N. India.	0 10 76	1 0 79	1 1 93				
(a) Anamallais—			s. d.	S. India.	a 0 10 41	b 1 1 12	c 1 1 51				
Thay Mudi	161	1 2½	(5)	Ceylon...	1 2 94	1 4 25	1 5 59				
Nalla Mudi	127	1 2½	(5)	Java ...	0 7 16	0 9 28	0 9 23				
do.	171	1 2	(26)	Sumatra.	0 8 22	0 10 03	0 10 54				
Mukottu Mudi	156	1 2	(5)	Nyassaland	0 7 36	0 9 11	0 8 84				
Gajam Mudi	135	1 1½	(26)	Total..	d 0 11 35	e 1 1 24	f 1 2 29				
*Anai Mudi	195	1 0 ¼	(26)								
*Naduar	83	1 0	(26)								
Stanmore	223	0 11 ½	(26)								
Sirikundra	242	0 11	(26)								
Eeteear	114	0 11	(26)								
(b) Central Travancore—											
*Stagbrook	107	1 1	(26)	N. India	0 9 92	1 0 49	1 2 11				
Fairfield	91	1 0 ¼	(26)	S. India.	a 0 10 08	b 1 0 93	c 1 1 69				
Twyford and Ashley (vemb)	77	1 0 ¼	(5)	Ceylon...	1 2 61	1 4 08	1 5 76				
*Munja Mullay	121	0 11 ½	(26)	Java ...	0 7 23	0 9 04	0 9 37				
(c) Kanan Devans—				Sumatra	0 8 19	0 9 84	0 10 67				
*Talliar	108	0 11 ½	(26)	Nyassaland.	0 6 71	0 8 85	0 8 83				
*Grahamsland	101	0 11 ½	(26)	Total ...	d 0 10 70	e 1 0 95	f 1 2 45				
*Yellapatty	197	0 11	(26)								
*Gundumallay	116	0 11	(26)								
*Chattamanaar	86	0 11	(26)								
(d) Nilgiris—											
Prospect	48	1 8½	(5)								
* do.	78	1 7½	(26)								
Parkside	62	1 6½	(26)								
Brooklands	136	1 3½	(26)								
Nonsuch	114	1 3½	(26)								
*Ibez Lodge	112	1 1	(26)								
*Woodlands	130	1 0 ¼	(26)								
Katary	91	1 0 ¼	(5)								
Pykara Falls	38	1 0	(26)								
Mailoor	34	0 11	(5)								
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad—											
*Seaforth	135	0 10 ¼	(5)								

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 7,277	b 49,712	c 64,316
d 96,770	e 748,886	f 747,247
g 3,290	h 53,002	i 72,397
j 38,724	k 837,610	l 832,823

(C) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, March 24, 1931, was 3½ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, March 21, 1931, were 83,132 tons, an increase of 131 tons on March 14, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, March 21, 1931, were 48,333 tons, an increase of 1,228 tons on March 14, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market—(Continued)

(B) COFFEE.—

SPECIAL CABLE

LONDON 'A' QUALITY

MARCH 23, 1931, 112 e. MARKET FIRM

London Prices (Seven days ending February 25, 1931).

District	Bags	s.	d.	Grades
<i>Coorg—</i>				
Cotakadoo ...	76	89	0	No. 1.
Huvinakadu ...	93	84	4	Nos. 1, 2 and PB.
Chisholms Corringabetta ...	61	81	2	No. 1 and T.
Binns Sidapur ...	131	80	3	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.
Mangles Hallery ...	90	79	11	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Chisholms Eldorado ...	112	79	6	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.
IM. Suaticoppa ...	31	78	6	No. 1 and T.
HTH ...	121	78	1	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.
Faith ...	60	72	11	Nos. 1, 2, PB and T.
Watakadu ...	77	71	4	Nos. 1, 2 and T.
Gerrards Mylatpur ...	5	69	0	PB and T.
Bunny's Wudderhally ...	26	68	3	Nos. 2, 3 and T.
Koorghully ...	55	67	3	Do.
Faith ...	60	72	11	Nos. 1, 2, PB and T.
<i>Mysore—</i>				
PH and Co., Santawerry ...	70	129	6	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Cannon, MC. ...	56	126	3	Nos. 1, 3 and PB.
Murkull, U. ...	30	100	0	Nos. 1, 3 and T.
Kents Chick ...	58	93	1	Nos. 1, 2 and PB.
Ubban Mockett ...	93	88	8	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Coogenhulli ...	85	86	4	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.
Alegani C. ...	49	86	0	Nos. 1 and 2.
Mockett S. and L. ...	63	82	8	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
PH. Hooli Hundloo ...	68	79	3	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.
DOD. Lakoonda ...	51	77	10	Do.
Mockett S. and L. ...	127	74	7	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
<i>Shivaroys—</i>				
Mogamabad ...	65	98	0	Do.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, March 26, 1931

Planting.—The market was almost completely stagnant both in *Rubbers* and *Teas* and prices suffered further marking down against holders; no interest was taken by investors. *Devasholas* alone had a transaction. *Raw Rubber* has been quoted below 3*d.*

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		L	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 3 9	- 6d.
2 Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 12 6	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 12 0	- 6d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 6	...
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	...
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 0	...
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 4 6	+ 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 18 6	...
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 15 0	- 6d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	...	10
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6½
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	32½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	8
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	4	4½
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	19
Pera Karamalaik Rs. 15	28	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	21
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1½
Periyars Rs. 10	...	4
Thodapushas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	6	7
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	94	96
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	14

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the auction of the 17th instant totalled 2,494,349 lbs. NUWARA ELIYA & MATURATA. Quality was satisfactory though some Maturata Invoices showed a declining tendency. Quotations were about steady for finest teas but otherwise followed the course of quality. HIGH GROWN. Quality especially of teas from Uva was rather disappointing. The few stand-out invoices met with steady support but otherwise demand especially for Brokens was inactive and prices showed an all-round decline. MEDIUM GROWN. Quality was satisfactory and well

up to the average for the season of the year. Leaf grades met with some demand but only at a drop of 3 to 5 cents. Broken grades were in very poor request. Some sales were effected at 6 to 8 cents drop but withdrawals of parcels without any offers were numerous and post auction offers were few and far between. Low GROWN. There was a fairly general demand, at an all-round drop of 1 to 2 cents as compared with last week's rates. FANNINGS & DUSTS. The best feature of the sale was the strong demand for finest fannings which sold readily at an appreciable advance. Other descriptions as well as dusts were irregular and easier.

South Indian Teas in Auction of March 3 and 10, 1931, obtained the following prices :-

Estates	Total lbs.	Average	Date
Kanniamallay ...	20,898	1·03	10
Manalaroo ...	4,030	52	3
Karandy Valley ...	9,273	50	3
Balamore ...	3,417	44	3

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

March 8, 1931 to March 21, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	82·13	82·13	24. Coonoor	0 03	46·42	46·45
2. Kaithuritty.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri	0·05	63·73	63·78
3. Kallar Bdge.	...	152·08	152·08	26. Ootacamund.	0·89	57·04	57·93
4. Koney ...	0·24	125·35	125·11	27. Yercaud	0·07	65·20	65·20
5. Pattanapura.	...	111·58	111·58	28. Mango Range	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam ...	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	...	76·31	76·31
7. Peermade ...	...	199·56	199·56	31. CALICUT ...	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford ...	3·46	241·09	244·55	32. Kuttiyadi	...	131·86	131·86
9 V'periyar ...	0·69	95·83	96·52	33. Vayitri	...	155·15	155·15
10. Kalaar ...	0·31	220·14	220·45	34. Manantoddi.	...	102·38	102·38
11. Chittuvurrai	...	55·05	55·05	35. Billigiris	...	83·91	83·91
12. Bod'i-KANUR	...	26·76	26·76	36. Sidapur	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN	1·90	113·77	115·67	37. Pollibetta	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply ...	...	140·62	140·62	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	0·82	122·78	123·60	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	' 02	189·74	189·76	40. Kadamanie	...	230·07	230·07
17. POLLACHIE	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonnur...	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara ...	0·02	154·06	154·08	43. Merthisubgey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode ..	1·00	129·45	128·45	44. Kelagur	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur ...	...	98·49	98·49	45. Durgadbettia.	...	101·99	101·99
22. Naduvattam ...	0·55	126·06	126·61	46. MANGALORE	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	1·58	122·97	124·57	47. MADRAS	...	68·72	68·72

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 8]

April 11, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

A MEETING of the Executive Committee will be held at the Ootacamund Club, Ootacamund on Sunday the 19th Instant, commencing at 10 a.m.

Executive Meeting A General Committee Meeting will be held at the Coonoor Club on the following day, the 20th Instant, when the Budget for 1931-2 will be discussed.

THE newly constructed Neryamangalam-Pallivasal Road linking the Planting District of Munnar with Trivandrum was formally opened on the 25th Ultimo, by H. H. the Maharani Regent of New Road Travancore.

The road goes as far as Munnar, a distance of 38 miles, rising from 130 ft. at the Periyar crossing to 4,800 ft. above sea-level at Munnar. The distance from Trivandrum to Munnar by this route is 190 miles, and the many advantages conferred by the new road will be greatly welcomed by Planters in the district.

THE general text and purport of this Act is published elsewhere in this issue for general information together with a list of Sub-Treasuries in the Planting Districts where licenses may be obtained. Henceforth, car owners may enjoy the unwonted pleasure of unrestricted travel, and freedom of the highways is at last assured in the Madras Presidency.

New Madras Motor Vehicles Act

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

ORANGE PEKOE

Correcting a wrong impression of the term 'orange pekoe', *India Tea Tips*, a four-page leaflet issued by the India Tea Bureau in New York, points out that the words 'orange pekoe' as a hopeful selling term is not used in any other tea-consuming country as a blend description. In America it is used with the naive idea that the consumer will be intrigued with the thought that it must be exceptionally good because it has some quality of the orange about it. After the process of 'firing', the mass of leaf is sifted through a series of oscillating sieves and graded into sizes under the commercial names, 'dust' 'fannings,' 'broken orange pekoe,' 'broken pekoe,' 'orange pekoe,' 'pekoe,' 'pekoe souchong,' 'souchong,' etc. 'Orange pekoe' is therefore merely a size of leaf resulting from sifting. The term is arbitrary and fanciful. It does not connote quality. 'Orange pekoe' may be good, bad, or indifferent, depending on where the tea was grown, and under what conditions it was picked and manufactured.

* * *

COFFEE CIRCULAR No. 10 DATED APRIL 4, 1931.

The season in Mangalore is over, and little, if any, coffee is available there; so Coimbatore now becomes the leading coffee market of South India. Though more buying interest has already arisen here, there is no change of importance in the level of prices, but some merchants are expecting prices to rise gradually as the season progresses, as supplies in view are not considered excessive.

The London price for good 'O' is equal to about Rs. 68 and quality still commands a premium there.

Rio No. 7 is now quoted at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Managing Agents, The Anupura Coffee Works Co., Ltd.

* * *

WHEN IN DOUBT—WAIT!

It is not always understood by motorists whether it is permissible to turn left when the red light is shown by an automatic traffic signal, says *The Autocar*. The British Minister of Transport has laid it down that, in general, a left, or right turn is prohibited under these conditions. If the volume of traffic is exceptionally heavy, and it is necessary to permit a turn to the left, a green arrow, visible only when the signal is illuminated, is affixed to the post.

Under Section 49 of the Road Traffic Act, it is an offence to fail to conform to indications given by a traffic sign. If in doubt, be on the safe side and wait. It is better to lose thirty seconds on the road than forty shillings in court.

* * *

FOG-BOUND MOTORISTS

Motorists in India may thank their lucky stars that they are not likely to be inconvenienced in any part of the country by a fog such as that which visited London recently. A newspaper reporter describes it as the worst day of fog London has known for many years, culminating in the complete paralysis of transport in many districts, particularly the southern suburbs, where extraordinary scenes occurred. To many of the older generation they were reminiscent of the days of the 'pea-souper', but few of the younger people who were among those struggling to reach home, had ever

experienced anything like the conditions. 'Visibility' was limited to three or four feet. Collisions occurred with such frequency that street-traffic in many parts came to an entire standstill, and hundreds of motorists, terrified to move a yard, parked their cars along the kerb. Long convoys of omnibuses which had been held up at various points for long periods eventually started for their garages at a crawl, men walking ahead carrying hurricane lamps to guide them. The tramcar service was in chaos. Several cars, owing to the constant application of brakes, overheated and caught fire, and one on the New-Cross-Forest-Hill-route burned for two hours and was entirely destroyed. Such was the congestion in the streets that the fire engines could not approach it, and debris strewn across the road added to the general confusion.—*Commerce.*

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LONDON RUBBER WHARF FIRE—1,800 TONS OF RUBBER DESTROYED

It is calculated that about 1,800 tons of rubber were destroyed in a fire which broke out at Butler's Wharf warehouses, near Tower Bridge, London, on Saturday, March 7, at 10 a.m. The fire is one of the biggest warehouse fires that has occurred alongside the Thames for several years. Within half an hour from the first alarm, the flames had got a strong hold on the seven-floor building where rubber and tea were stored. A brigade call was circulated, and quickly dozens of fire-engines had arrived. Fire-floats were also brought into operation and played on the buildings from the river.

The back of the wharf is connected by iron bridges with premises on the other side of the road, and from these, firemen poured thousands of gallons of water into the middle of the blaze.

Firemen also attacked the fire from the steamer *Teal*, which was moored close to the wharf. A large crane fixed to the wall of the wharf caught fire at the top, and in a few minutes it fell on to the foreshore.

When the *Alpha* and *Beta*, the two fire-brigade floats, joined forces with the *Teal*, more than 20 nozzles were pouring water into the fire. Some of the riverside cranes were also used by the firemen as vantage points from which water could be directed on to the flames.

Hundreds of people watched the fire from London Bridge and Tower Bridge.

During Saturday night searchlights were directed on to the building, and by their light, firemen were able to concentrate on those parts where the fire broke out at intervals with renewed fierceness.

The India Rubber Journal.

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ADVERTISING TEA

Expert's Advice to Planters

APATHY IN AMERICA

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Ceylon Planters' Association held at Kandy on March 10, Mr. J. F. Burton of the London Press Exchange, addressed the meeting on the subject of tea advertising.

After describing the organization of the London Press Exchange, he said that it seemed to him that twelve years were a very long time for a body of business men to take to decide whether or not to advertise Tea. The industry had serious rivals, e.g. Ovaltine, Cocoa, etc., and all food

drinks, and he estimated that the Tea now consumed in larger houses was 50 per cent. China and 50 per cent. India.

EUROPEAN MARKET

He understood that the industry intended to advertise in the American market, but he advised against this being done, as there was a great apathy in that country to the Tea Trade, because it is a Coffee-drinking country. He doubted if a cess of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. per lb. would provide sufficient funds for advertising in America on a large scale and advocated a campaign in Great Britain, Ireland, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

Mr. Carson Parker asked Mr. Burton if he had approached the Ceylon Association in this matter.

Mr. Burton replied that he had discussed this with some members of the Ceylon Association as well as of the Indian Tea Association. During the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that the consumption of tea in pounds per head could not be compared with the consumption of coffee because a greater weight per cup of coffee is necessary.

After a few questions had been asked, the Chairman thanked Mr. Burton for his remarks.

DEPUTATION OF PLANTERS.

Mr. Rolfe asked if a deputation of planters going on leave would meet the Ceylon Association or if the idea had been abandoned.

The Chairman replied that a list of eight planters proceeding on leave had been sent to the Ceylon Association, but not with the idea that they should form a deputation. Mr. Shakespeare had said that such a deputation was undesirable, but he would willingly invite Planters on leave to attend Ceylon Association meetings.

Mr. Rolfe said that he thought it was very necessary to send this deputation.

Mr. Carson Parker said that if the meeting agreed to send a deputation, the names of those going home should be submitted to this Committee and the deputation should be a properly organized one and the members thereof fully conversant with the subject.

Mr. Rolfe proposed, seconded by Mr. Smerdon that a deputation should be sent.

The resolution was put to the meeting and lost, only three being in favour.

REFUSE TEA

Mr. Hector said that as the question of Refuse Tea was so closely allied with Restriction and Advertising, his Association wished him to bring this matter to the notice of Colombo Agents and asked them to stop the sale of factory sweepings, etc.

Mr. Roe said that in August last when his Association discussed this question, it was decided that the sale of Refuse Tea at the factory door should be deprecated. He felt that this was an important matter and that the Associations interested should take joint action. He would put this subject on the agenda of the next meeting of the Ceylon Estates Proprietary Association and he would suggest that a definite agreement should be reached with London that Superintendents should destroy Refuse Tea and thus encourage the caddie-keepers to sell a better grade.

In reply to a point raised by Mr. Wilmot Perera, it was explained that up to date it had been found impossible to define Tea.

MADRAS MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION ACT

Government of Madras

Local Self-Government Department

Press Communiqué

Dated Fort St. George, the 30th March 1931.

In order that the public may be readily acquainted with the provisions of the above Act, the following Communiqué is published for general information:—

I.—THE NEW LAW

The new Act is called the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. It will come into force on the 1st April 1931, so that after that date its provisions will apply throughout the Presidency of Madras.

II.—EFFECT OF THE NEW ACT.

(a) All existing tolls are done away with and no tolls can in future be levied anywhere in the Madras Presidency on any vehicle or animal or person except on any new road or bridge which Government may make after this date: on such works Government may levy a toll till so much of the cost of the work as they may determine is recovered. Such tolls can only be temporary and are for definite services rendered at one or two places at most and can only be levied by Government.

(b) Municipalities and the Corporation of Madras can no longer levy any vehicle tax on any kind of motor vehicle.

(c) Everyone who keeps or uses a motor vehicle in the Presidency of Madras must hereafter pay tax on it to Government unless it is exempted in one of the classes mentioned below. *The vehicle need not be actually used; even if it is merely kept, the tax has to be paid.* All vehicles except those used solely for the purpose of agriculture must have a licence whether they are exempted from tax or not, but if they fall into one of the exempted classes the licence is issued free of charge. Special general licences for dealers are contemplated. It is the business of the person applying for licence to satisfy the licensing officer that the vehicle is exempted and the tax need not be paid. The only exemptions will be—

(1) Motor vehicles kept for sale or under repair in the premises of a dealer or manufacturer during an entire quarter.

(2) Motor vehicles used solely for the purpose of agriculture. (But it should be noted that a motor vehicle used for transporting agricultural produce along a road does not come under this head.)

(3) Motor cycles belonging to officers or soldiers in a motor cycle platoon or similar corps. Those who were exempt under the former law under this head will remain so.

No tax need be paid if—

(1) the vehicle has been kept or used in the Presidency only for the last 14 days of any quarter or any part thereof;

(2) the tax has already been paid by a previous owner or any other person for the current quarter.

(d) The law remains unaltered in respect of—

(1) tax leviable by the Corporation of Madras and municipal councils on animals and on vehicles other than motor vehicles; thus, carts kept outside municipal or Corporation limits pay no tax as at present.

(2) the *licence fees* leviable by district boards and municipal councils on motor vehicles plying for hire and on lorries. These *must still be paid* by the classes of vehicles affected.

III.—PRINCIPLES OF TAXATION UNDER THE NEW LAW

Motor vehicles are divided into—

(1) Motor cycles.

(2) Invalid vehicles.

(3) Vehicles used for haulage and transport of goods and materials.

(4) Motor vehicles plying for hire and used for the transport of passengers.

(5) Other motor vehicles.

Private cars come under (5).

The first class pays a flat rate: enhanced if there is a side car or trailer. The third and fifth classes pay on unladen weight. This can always be known by the Licensing Officer from the lists which under the Act every manufacturer or importer has to supply. The great majority of private cars will fall into class 5 (6) in Schedule II (15-30 cwt.) and will pay a tax of Rs. 25 per quarter. For example Austin (except 7 h.p. which comes in lower class paying Rs. 17-8-0 per quarter), Chevrolet, Chrysler, Citroen, Dodge (except Senior Sedan), Erskine, Essex, Fiat, Ford, Graham-Paige, Hillman, Marquette, Morris-Cowley, Morris-Oxford, Overland, Studebaker (except 8-cyl. saloon), Willys-Knight and Wolseley are some of the cars which fall into this class.

Class (4) pays on the number of persons the vehicle is licensed to carry under the Motor Vehicles Rules. Note that it is *persons* not *passengers*. In 1931-32 this class will pay only three-fourths of the schedule rates, viz., Rs. 7-8-0 per person licensed to carry instead of Rs. 10.

All other classes of vehicles will pay at the rates shown against them in the schedule.

V.—PROCEDURE UNDER THE NEW ACT.

The tax must be paid and the licences taken out on or before the 14th day of the quarter. A quarter is the minimum period. Licences may, however, be taken out for any number of consecutive quarters in the same financial year (1st April to 31st March). So the tax may be paid for a year, for nine months or for six months on 1st April; for nine months or for six months on 1st July; and for six months on 1st September. There is no reduction in the tax if paid for more than one quarter.

Licences may be obtained from the Commissioner of Police or from the Taluk Head Accountant in any of the Sub-Treasuries mentioned in the appendix below. The public are not obliged to pay tax to any Licensing Officer rather than to any other but can suit their convenience.

The person wishing to pay tax and obtain a licence should apply to the nearest Licensing Officer personally or by reliable messenger. It is essential that the registration certificate under the Motor Vehicles Act belonging to the car should be produced. If this is missing, a copy should be got at once from the Registration Authority who issued the original (the District Superintendent of Police of the district whose letter the motor vehicle bears). Such copies will be supplied on payment in the case of almost all motor vehicles, except motor cycles, of Rs. 8, being half the original fee. It is necessary to produce the certificate of registration because (1) the Licensing Officer then need not insist on the production of the motor vehicle itself, but may fill up the licence from the particulars given in the registration certificate; (2) the Licensing Officer is obliged under the Act to record on the registration certificate that tax has been paid or is not due as the case may be. The registration certificate will always accompany the car and will be a permanent record of payment kept with the owner.

On application being made to the nearest Licensing Officer with the registration certificate or with the motor vehicle itself, the Licensing Officer will fill in the licence and issue it. The Licence must be carried in a conspicuous place on the vehicle. The circular part alone need be shown. The most suitable way to carry it is perhaps in a circular licence-holder, which any dealer will supply. A Police Officer cannot stop a car solely to examine the licence, but he may demand production of it at any time when the car is stationary.

VI.—PENALTIES UNDER THE ACT.

If the tax is not paid, the registered owner or person having possession or control of the motor vehicle may be prosecuted and punished with a fine of Rs. 50. Or the vehicle may be seized and detained in custody and if the tax is not paid after the issue of warning notice, it will be sold in auction to defray tax and expenses. Lastly, the tax may be recovered as an arrear of land revenue.

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

For the convenience of Planters, a list of Sub-Treasuries in Planting Districts where Licensing Officers are appointed is given below, and licences can be obtained from any of these places:—

Sub-Treasuries where Licensing Officers are appointed

MADURA DISTRICT	SOUTH KANARA DISTRICT
Kodaikanal.	Mangalore.
RAMNAD DISTRICT	MALABAR DISTRICT
Srivilliputtur.	Palghat.
COIMBATORE DISTRICT	Cochin.
Coimbatore.	Calicut.
NILGIRIS DISTRICT	Manjeri (Ernad).
Ootacamund (Huzur).	Perintalmanna (Walluvanad).
Coonoor.	Vayitri.
Gudalur.	Manantoddy.
SALEM DISTRICT	
Salem.	
Vercaud,	

COFFEE MARKET REPORT

Messrs. R. J. Rouse & Co., Ltd., of 38a, Mincing Lane, E.C. 3., in their Weekly Report dated March 18, 1931 write :—

Large supplies still continue to come forward for Public Sale and the market, on the whole, has been fairly well maintained, but here and there the tendency has been irregular.

2,612 bags East India were catalogued, of which only part were disposed of. Fine home trade Mysores were in great demand and realized very high prices, whilst some Coorgs of good colour also sold well, but faded, and common descriptions met little attention and had to be bought in.

Good quantities of African were again on offer and attracted steady competition for all grades except the commonest, whilst the home trade again picked out the best qualities of Kenya at very high rates.

Finest London-cleaned Costa Rica went well, but much less interest was shown in other kinds, and values generally were inclined to be easier, whilst a considerable portion had to be withdrawn.

EAST INDIA COFFEE IN PUBLIC SALE SINCE 11TH MARCH

Mark	O	A	B	C	P	T
Ootsey D & W.	..	16 83/-	12 70/-	..	7 n.s.	8 54/-
Hooli Hundloo.	..	24 n.s.	13 72/-	..	7 85/-	4 52/-
Bettadmane ..	..	22 83/-	18 n.s.	..	7 n.s.	8 54/-
Ooghuily ..	..	18 n.s.	16 n.s.	5 51/-	5 n.s.	..
Thollol ..	..	34 98/-	17 73/-	4 54/6	9 93/6	8 55/-
Chininhalli Mtn.	..	26 93/-	14 71/-	..	6 88/-	5 54/-
Naduar ..	28 90/-	50 98/-	17 73/6	..	8 91/-	6 56/6
Corringabetta.	..	26 74/6	12 64/-	..	10 83/6	11 52/6
Puthuitotam ..	53 100/-	43 n.s.	25 n.s.	1 51/-	10 85/6	11 56/6
Cotengadi ..	..	64 n.s.	36 n.s.	..	27 85/-	10 54/-
Mavin Kola ..	..	29 81/-	16 n.s.	1 50/-	9 80/-	5 51/-
AF ..	..	27 83/6	8 n.s.	..	..	..
AF ..	..	31 n.s.	51 74/6	9 n.s.	18 86/-	6 54/-
Margoli ..	..	31 86/-	68 74/6	..	..	..
AF ..	..	49 87/6	72 n.s.	..	..	..
Cottabetta ..	..	35 87/6	30 74/-	..	..	..
..	..	29 n.s.	..	..	..	..
Cannon Kadu.	..	21 n.s.	70 75/6	..	..	..
Udevar ..	..	32 81/-	16 n.s.	..	16 80/6	..
Jiganekhan K.	..	21 132/-	16 83/-	..	..	..
HC K ..	..	29 153/-	15 109/-	..	..	6 69/6
Meppens Nug- ger ..	..	48 115/6	25 80/-	..	4 95/-	..
Huvinakadu ..	..	3 n.s.	..	..	..	..
Hooli Hundloo.	..	34 83/-	24 n.s.	7 n.s.	9 n.s.	8 54/6
Ooghully ..	..	25 n.s.	27 n.s.	10 57/-	9 n.s.	15 54/6
Hooldy ..	..	15 82/-	15 n.s.	5 54/-	5 n.s.	6 53/6
O Hospet ..	..	38 112/-	26 n.s.	2 55/6	19 106/6	16 58/-
Mockett G ..	104 n.s.	43 68/-	2 51/6	..	15 n.s.	13 55/-
J Santawerry.	30 156/-	23 100/-	2 60/-	..	4 146/-	.10 65/6
Santawerry ..	27 159/-	29 129/6	3 82/6	..	4 155/6	.10 75/-
L. Lingapur ..	42 90/6	25 71/6	2 51/6	..	10 84/-	6 55/-
Cannon C B ..	56 129/6	42 83/-	8 55/-	..	8 129/-	7 58/-
Cannon CM ..	72 131/6	51 78/6	6 55/-	..	12 144/-	11 58/-

BRITISH TEA AND COFFEE TRADE

Reviewing the tea and coffee trade of 1930, McMeekin & Co., London, treat this from standpoint of the British trade center of the world's tea market. In addition, the report takes up in detail a number of matters of pertinent interest, these including tea restriction and its effects on the tea share market. Distribution is handled in relation to world economic depression. Consumption is analyzed and shown to be on the increase in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The teas of India, Ceylon, Dutch East Indies, China, and other countries are studied from the standpoint of import demand. Foreign trade and statistics conclude the report on tea. The coffee trade is also treated in short detail. The report in full follows:

TEA PRODUCERS

In these notes for 1929, it was suggested that producers had very grave cause for anxiety. Unfortunately, this anticipation proved only too accurate. Early in the year it was realized that, unless some drastic change took place, very many producers would be faced indefinitely with the necessity of realizing their crops at considerably less than cost, and in April an agreement was reached by the Planters' Associations of India, Ceylon and the Netherlands Indies, for the restriction of crops for season 1930. This agreement provided for a reduction in output of 57,000,000 lbs. It is disappointing to note that, from the 1st June to the 31st December, the imports from these countries show a reduction of only 12,800,000 lbs., so that up to the present at any rate the U.K. market has derived little or no benefit. No doubt, producers in all countries are now working on the most economical basis possible, consistent with the maintenance of their estates in good working condition; but even giving full credit for this, it is doubtful whether some advance in cost of production can be avoided when all overhead expenses have to be borne by smaller crops. The absence of reliable statistics renders it impossible to attempt any longer to estimate the figures of home consumption, but, taking the London figures as a guide, no encouragement can be derived from a study of the position. No permanent improvement, however, is possible until producers in all growing districts realize that mere restriction of crops can never be effective unless, at the same time, a genuine effort is made to obtain compensation for higher cost, by producing what the consuming markets require—and that, for TEA, is undoubtedly an all-round improvement in quality and very much greater care in manufacture. It may be fair to blame the weather for some of the inability on the part of managers to produce better quality, but they must be held responsible for the heavy percentage of stalky, poorly, manufactured tea, which continues to be offered at public auctions in all markets. It is difficult for members of the trade, suffering from ignorance of garden conditions, to believe that the general average of quality would not have been much improved, had producers, from the start of the season, definitely cut their crops by the percentage to which they had agreed for the season. At least, finer plucking would have helped toward superior grading and reduced shipments. This would have created a more optimistic atmosphere in consuming markets, and then, if Nature had also reduced outturn, the moral effect of the consequent heavy curtailment of shipments would have been such as fully to compensate shareholders for any sacrifices this method entailed. A comparison between the figures of the Self-Denying Agreement of last April and the results achieved so far—noted below under each

heading—will easily account for the cautious action of buyers generally in consuming markets, resulting in their operating only for immediate requirements. On the thirty-five leading companies tabulated by the Indian Tea Share Exchange Ltd., the capital value shows a decline for the year of £4,500,000, equal to about 17½ per cent. While it has merely an indirect bearing on this position, it may be interesting to record that the realized value of all tea sold in public auction in London showed a decline on the figures of 1929 of £1,600,000, and upon those of 1928 of £2,400,000.

TEA DISTRIBUTORS

The past year has produced great variation in the experience of those engaged in this branch of the industry. It is probable that the blenders generally have good reason for congratulation upon their results, but it is doubtful whether those distributing tea wholesale in original packages have equal satisfaction. The decline in export trade must have rendered it difficult for those carrying stocks necessary for the protection of their foreign buyers during the spring and early summer months to avoid loss greater than anything covered by subsequent improvement in values. Increased exports of 1,250,000 lbs., at the end of February had fallen by the end of December to a decline for the year of 6,500,000 lbs. Even to those directly supplying the public, it is doubtful whether the year has proved equally satisfactory to all traders. Reports received from the North indicate that the industrial depression probably accounted for the loss of many customers of long standing. Lack of money may have tempted many buyers to transfer their custom to other suppliers offering special inducements, or a lower-priced article. Past experiences, however, generally prove such transferences to be merely temporary, and the quality of the article gradually regains its hold upon the consuming public. In the South, reports indicate favourable results for the year's trade.

TEA CONSUMERS

In spite of the great anxiety manifested by certain of their self-appointed political protectors, it may be accepted generally that consumers continue to enjoy exceptional opportunities of buying on favourable terms what is, after all, absolutely the cheapest beverage obtainable in this or any other country. Even in those countries burdened with penalizing duties on tea, it is difficult to find any form of drink, other than water, costing as little per pint as the finest tea, even allowing for the added cost of milk and sugar. Private reports suggest that industrial depression, particularly in the Northern districts, has led to an increased demand for the lowest canister. Should such really be the fact—and the high level maintained throughout the year for Common Broken Pekoe Souchong rather supports the theory—it is difficult to believe that it can continue. In this connection it may be interesting to recall the facts set forth in these notes for the year 1923. In Ireland the average income of wage-earning families was, and continues to be, below that in England, but the Irish workers purchase the finest quality tea imported to these islands, and they are credited with a much greater consumption of liquid tea per diem. Owing, however, to the better results obtainable from the finest teas, they required only about 6 lbs., per head, against 9 lbs., in Great Britain. In 1923 they secured more liquid, of finer quality, for 21/- than their English friends received, of inferior quality, for 23/-. For the good of all, traders and consumers alike, it is to be

hoped that the nation will not be burdened with any more expenses, in the shape of Consumers' Councils, for the protection of ladies who have always shown in the past how capable they are of judging which supplier offers them what they require at the best price. Tea, more than all other beverages, is a highly specialized article, and all consumers would pray to be delivered from a recurrence of the dead level of mediocrity which they had to endure under Government control during the War period.

INDIAN TEA

Imports of Indian tea into Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 289,997,000 lbs., compared with 306,735,000 lbs., in 1929. Generally, the quality has been disappointing, but it is a pleasure to record that from all districts the produce of certain gardens has shown a very decided improvement. There is little doubt that the proprietors of such gardens will have much cause for congratulation when they have an opportunity, at the close of the season, of comparing results obtained with those of others. Some indication of the general demand for good quality may be gathered from a comparison of the average prices realized in public auction for the crop of tea from the various districts: Assam shows an improvement upon the average of the preceding season of .82d. per lb., Dooars and Terai of .32d. per lb., Cachar and Sylhet of .29d. per lb., and Darjeeling of 3·01d. per lb. A study, however, of some individual garden results emphasizes this difference to an even greater extent. Taking the London figures as a basis for estimating the deliveries in the United Kingdom, it appears that they exceeded the actual imports during the year by about 5,250,000 lbs., so that the stock may be less by this figure. During the past four years the United Kingdom has taken an average of about 80 per cent of the actual shipments from Northern India, and during that period the stock of North, and South Indian tea in the London warehouses has increased by about 60,000,000 lbs. To effect any serious result, by restriction or other policy agreement, upon the general level of value, it is essential that the United Kingdom, the world's most important market for tea, should derive direct benefit. Against an agreed restriction of crop of 32,000,000 lbs., cabled advices report an actual decline of about 42,000,000 lbs. To secure the full benefit of this to the United Kingdom market, 80 per cent. or, say, 33,500,000 lbs. should be reflected in reduced shipments from Northern India. Last season, those amounted to 273,000,000 lbs., so that for the current season only, say, 240,000,000 lbs. should have been anticipated. Up to December 31, however, actual shipments to the United Kingdom were 233,750,000 lbs. leaving, say, 6,000,000 lbs. to complete the season. In the same period, however, for 1930, 45,750,000 lbs., and in 1929, 43,000,000 lbs., were actually shipped. With such figures before them, it is earnestly hoped by all traders that producers may see that the only possible solution of the difficulty is to abandon the policy of quantity, irrespective of quality: to concentrate all efforts upon the production of the very finest tea of which their estates are capable. To effect this, (1) the policy of manuring for quantity per acre should be suspended, and (2) attention devoted to fine plucking and the most careful manufacture. Undoubtedly such action would result in smaller crops, and, if Nature contributed, the contraction might be fully equal to that experienced in 1920-21, but also compensation of equal value might be secured. Further, such a course would eliminate the necessity of unanimous or even 75 per cent agreements. Quality would quickly bring its own reward, as proved by certain gardens

and districts during the past season, and should quantity producers derive benefit they would be welcome to this, as it is very doubtful whether it would materialize for a considerable period, in view of the time necessary for the absorption of the present excessive stocks. Teas from Southern India continued to attract attention, and although prices realized have been disappointing, the difference for the year between the value secured, as compared with that for the Northern India crop, was only 1·7d. lower. This compares with a difference of 37d. lower for 1929 and 1·09 d. for 1928. Against agreed restriction of 4,000,000 lbs. the actual shipments to all places for the eleven months to November 30, showed a contraction of over 5,750,000 lbs.

Ceylon Tea

The imports into Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 152,668,000 lbs., compared with 153,095,000 lbs. in 1929. The quality generally throughout the year was about average. It is again very disappointing to record that the off-take by markets other than the United Kingdom during the year showed a contraction of fully 7,500,000 lbs. A serious drop in the figures for Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Iraq, the European continent and Canada occurred, the only countries showing much increase being the United States of America and African countries other than Egypt. The decline in value as compared with 1929 on prices realized in London public auction for the year was the smallest shown on any growth, being only a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ d. As in the case of Indian tea, it is probable that the results to individual gardens have varied very considerably. For the year Nuwara Eliya teas have undoubtedly secured an advance above the prices obtained in the previous year, and it is possible that gardens in other districts, showing improved quality, have gained a similar experience. The restriction agreement provided for a reduction of crops of 11,000,000 lbs., and actual shipments for the year have been advised as less by 10,000,000 lbs.; but, as in the case of India, the United Kingdom market has derived little benefit, shipments being less by only 2,500,000 lbs.

NETHERLANDS INDIES TEA

The imports of Java and Sumatra tea into Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 84,613,000 lbs., compared with 85,404,000 lbs. in 1929. The general average of quality was equal to that of the previous year, but there was a larger percentage of tippy, well-made tea on offer, and such attracted attention. The improvement was reflected in the prices obtained. From Sumatra some invoices of really high quality were offered steadily throughout the year. There was a decline of 2,500,000 lbs., in the quantity exported from the United Kingdom. The agreement for restriction of crop provided for a reduction of 10,000,000 lbs. The Vereeniging voor de Thee Cultuur in Nederlandsch-Indie report a reduction in shipments for the year from Java and Sumatra of 2,895,000 lbs. Direct shipments from the islands to the United Kingdom up to November 30, showed a decline on those of 1929 of over 3,250,000 lbs., but as the total received was less only by about 750,000 lbs., it is probable that the difference was balanced by increased shipments from Holland.

CHINA TEA

The imports of China tea into Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 8,745,000 lbs., compared with 9,210,000 lbs. in 1929. The quality of the new season's teas was most disappointing. Realization of this on receipt of the early samples of the new season's teas created a demand for any parcels remaining on hand of the previous year's crop. These were quickly absorbed.

OTHER COUNTRIES

The imports from other countries into Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 5,420,000 lbs., compared with 4,724,000 lbs. in 1929. It is interesting to note that London warehouses appear to receive only a very small proportion of these teas. Against total imports into the United Kingdom of 5,500,000 lbs., the London warehouse returns indicate receipts of only 2,500,000 lbs.

IRISH FREE STATE

The improved shipments of Indian tea from this country to the Irish Free State, referred to in these notes for 1929, was not maintained during the past year. Shipments of all tea showed a decline of about 1,250,000 lbs. This, however, does not necessarily indicate any drop in consumption, as the demand has probably been met by stocks carried over from 1929.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports for 1930 amounted to 88,402,000 lbs., compared with 95,023,000 lbs. in the previous year. All growths shared in this decline, but for British-grown tea it is entirely balanced by the reduction in shipments to Russia. Excluding Holland, the figures published by the *International Review of Agriculture* in Rome indicate that, apart from Germany, and trifling amounts by Sweden, Lithuania and Switzerland, imports of all tea into European countries showed a decline of 2,250,000 lbs. for the twelve months ended October 31, as compared with the previous twelve months. Germany, however, showed an increase of imports of 605,000 lbs. and it may be some satisfaction to Indian producers to record that duty payments there for home consumption for the twelve months ended December 31 last, show that the growth in the use of their produce fully accounted for the greater imports. The figures of total imports into the United States of America to June 30, again show a serious decline—6,250,000 lbs. Against this, it is gratifying to record increased imports by British countries: Canada, 8,750,000 lbs., New Zealand, 1,750,000 lbs., Australia, 750,000 lbs. During the current season, shipments from India direct to Russia show some increase, but this is very much more than offset by reductions in shipments from all other producing countries, and those from the United Kingdom. It must be a matter of very serious regret to all producers that, up to present, it has been impossible to arrange any satisfactory basis for the reopening of this market. In pre-War days the off-take by Russia was about 170,000,000 lbs. Various figures are published by different authorities as to the off-take during past years, but under the most favourable conditions the loss of this market cannot represent less than 100,000,000 lbs. per annum, and possibly it is fully 20 per cent greater. Undoubtedly, increased shipments to Russia would have to be arranged against liberal terms of credit, and this has been the stumbling-block to any successful negotiations. Mutual distrust by various interests rendered negotiations entered upon as far back as 1928 abortive. Had the situation, however, been faced then, the existing appalling state of the industry would not have occurred, as the value of any ship-

ments resulting from those negotiations would, by this date, have been entirely paid. It was the realization then that production had outstripped consumption which prompted an attempt to re-establish the Russian market. At the end of 1927 the average value of all tea sold in the London auctions was 1/7d. per lb. Compare this with the price at the end of 1930—1/3½d. Trade absorption of the surplus probably in itself would have resulted in a stable level of value. It is therefore arguable that, had the then existing surplus of, say, 40,000,000 lbs., been shipped on credit, even though—later—difficulties of payment developed, the cost of the operation would have been fully covered with a margin of about 2d. per lb. for contingencies. As, however, all commercial obligations of the existing government in Russia have been promptly honoured, producers would have had full payment for their teas, and the benefit of stabilized value for their crops. The only safeguard which producers really required in 1928 was fully provided in the negotiations, namely, that any credit granted should be only for a quantity in excess of that which they had been receiving from their existing suppliers. In former days, British producers faced world competition on any article by concentrating upon the maintenance of a high standard of quality and the reduction of working costs by improved methods of manufacture. In this way, they held a premier position in consuming markets, and gradually increased their outlet. After-War conditions, with some years of exceptional prosperity, appear to have developed the doctrine that such benefactors of the race of manufacturers and producers should continue to enjoy a privileged position. The methods for securing this vary, but whether restriction agreements or government control by tariffs, they all add to cost, for which consumers are expected to pay. At the best, they secure merely spasmodic periods of fictitious prosperity, while encouraging others, free from all restriction, to defeat the object of such methods. There is no doubt, however, that only a return to the old spirit of independence, resulting in the highest-quality at lowest possible cost, will regain for producers or manufacturers permanent prosperity.

STATISTICS

Comparison of the figures published by the Board of Trade representing the total of imports of all tea into the United Kingdom, clearly indicates that the percentage of teas received by warehouses making a return to the London Brokers' Association, is steadily declining. For the past year, the percentage of Indian tea for which no warehouse returns were received, advanced by 3½ per cent to 8 per cent, that for Ceylon tea by 8½ per cent to 29 per cent, but that for Netherlands Indies and all other growths remained about the same. The China figures, as previously, indicate that all imports were received in London. These variations in individual growths increase the percentage of all tea received into the out-ports by 4 per cent to 15 per cent. It is reasonable to assume that the rate of delivery from private warehouses may vary very considerably with that from public warehouses, because the object of economizing on rent is not a factor. Such being the position it is practically impossible to form any accurate estimate of deliveries from warehouses other than those supplying figures to the Brokers' Association, and in the table of figures given below, only the returns supplied by the Board of Trade, imports and exports, can be regarded as applicable to the United Kingdom. In order that readers may have an opportunity of forming for themselves an estimate of home trade deliveries, the London Brokers' figures of deliveries and

stock follow the official, for the years 1929 and 1930. Against these, for comparison purposes, the figures of the United Kingdom for the years 1925-8 are printed. It must be noted, however, that the London Brokers' figures include all exports from that port. During the five years ended 1929, London exported 80 per cent of the total shipments from the United Kingdom. The London figures of stock show a small increase on the 12 months, but it is fair to estimate the concealed stock as having seriously increased. Support of this theory is obtainable by estimating the stock in the United Kingdom for the past two years—by adding to the London figures the percentage by which they differ on imports from the figures of the Board of Trade. If this is done, it shows that the stock at the end of 1929 was about 289,000,000 lbs., and at the end of 1930 rather over 300,000,000 lbs. In addition to the reduced figures of export shown below, it is fair to estimate that the quantity taken by H.M. Navy and Army, and stores for merchant vessels during the past year is likely to have been less than in 1929, owing to the very much larger number of steamers lying up, as the result of general world depression. In order to continue comparison of estimated consumption *per capita* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, an estimate has been formed by deducting 90 per cent of the exports from London delivery figures of Indian tea, all the figures of export from China teas, and 80 per cent of the exports from other growths, and adding to the remainders thus reached, 5 per cent on Indian and 12½ per cent on Ceylon, Netherlands Indies, etc.

**BRITISH AND NORTH IRELAND TEA CONSUMPTION
*Per Capita Pounds***

	1930 Lbs.	1929 Lbs.	1928 Lbs.	1927 Lbs.	1926 Lbs.	1925 Lbs.
	9·07	9·00	9·2	8·96	8·91	8·82
Percentage of Kinds						
B. E. Indies	... 56½%	56¾%	56%	55½%	56¾%	59½%
Ceylon	... 26½	26½	28½	26½	27½	27½
China	... 1½	1½	1½	2½	2½	2½
Other countries	... 15½	15½	13½	15½	13	10½
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

COFFEE

Whatever be the troubles facing tea traders, they are as nothing compared with the disasters, confronting those whose interests are centered in coffee, whether as producers or distributors. At various periods during the year, fluctuations in value occurred, but any improvement in tone was of short duration, and there was a steady decline in values throughout the year. Taking the world stock at the 31st of December, of which about 88 per cent was in Brazil, either warehoused in the interior or at ports of shipment, there was sufficient to cover the present world demand for over 15 months, and conservative estimates of production indicate further supplies exceeding 12 months' consumption, so that there seems to be no possibility of relief from the accumulation of stock which continued during the past year at the rate of about 25 per cent, unless some very substantial new consuming market can be discovered. The depreciation in value between the 31st December, 1929, and the same date in 1930, upon the 27,000,000 bags lying in Brazil may be estimated at not less than about £20,500,000, that being the difference between the local quotations in Santos

and Rio on those dates. In addition to this, it is reported that between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 bags are regarded as unsuitable for consumption. Should this be correct, it would mean a further capital loss, probably of between £1 and £2 per bag, necessary to cover cost of growing, collecting, manufacturing, warehousing and transit. The decline in values on stocks held in consuming markets during the twelve months, represents a further £4,750,000 to £5,000,000, so that it is impossible to visualize any section of the trade which can have avoided some loss. Certainly the coffee position should be a warning to producers of all other commodities, because the control exercised over that article by government has been much more strongly enforced than is possible in the case of any other product. The percentage represented by Brazil in the world's consumption during the past twelve months showed a further contraction, and it is doubtful whether it now exceeds 60 per cent of the total, while in Germany the official figures of duty payments indicate a further contraction from 37 per cent of the total to about 33 per cent.

BRITISH COFFEE FIGURES, 1925 TO 1930

	1930 Cwts.	1929 Cwts.	1928 Cwts.	1927 Cwts.	1926 Cwts.	1925 Cwts.
Imports ...	823,000	559,000	656,000	682,000	478,000	656,000
*Quantity on which duty was paid for home consumption. ...	*321,000	*318,944	*322,723	334,000	320,000	327,000
Quantity exported ...	442,000	246,000	324,000	276,000	253,000	213,000
Delivered free of duty for use of H. M. Navy and Army and for stores of merchant vessels ...	3,637	2,884	2,482	2,920	2,458	3,404

*Quantity Naval and Mercantile stores under drawback deducted.

From McMeekin & Co., London, based upon the papers issued by the Board of Trade made up from the Custom House returns.

BRITISH AND NORTH IRELAND TEA FIGURES, 1925 TO 1930

	1930 Lbs.	1929 Lbs.	1928 Lbs.	1927 Lbs.	1926 Lbs.	1925 Lbs.
Imports—						
British East						
Indies ...	289,997,000	306,735,000	288,820,000	303,545,000	270,458,000	291,156,000
Ceylon ...	152,668,000	153,095,000	139,280,000	142,513,000	140,408,000	132,540,000
China ...	8,745,000	9,210,000	6,581,000	12,518,000	13,581,000	10,247,000
Netherlands						
Indies ...	84,613,000	85,404,000	71,221,000	74,792,000	64,501,000	53,582,000
Other countries.	5,420,000	4,724,000	2,954,000	3,634,000	3,468,000	3,041,000
Total ...	541,443,000	559,168,000	508,856,000	537,002,000	492,416,000	490,566,000

Quantity exported—

British East						
Indies ...	51,710,000	54,888,000	49,423,000	47,677,000	43,103,000	49,329,000
Ceylon ...	26,455,000	26,910,000	26,827,000	24,302,000	23,238,000	22,727,000
China ...	1,814,000	2,226,000	2,844,000	3,290,000	4,794,000	4,747,000
Netherlands						
Indies ...	7,869,000	10,381,000	10,559,000	9,956,000	9,858,000	11,197,000
Other countries.	554,000	656,000	373,000	362,000	437,000	411,000
Total ...	88,402,000	95,061,000	90,026,000	85,587,000	81,430,000	88,411,000

From McMeekin & Co., London, based upon the papers issued by the Board of Trade made up from the Custom House returns.

LONDON RUBBER MARKET

WEEKLY REVIEW

Messrs. Huson, Tod & Co. have received by Air Mail from their London correspondents their Weekly Rubber Market Reports, dated March 19, 1931:—

The tone of the market since our last report has been a very uncertain one, swayed by optimistic and pessimistic restriction news from time to time, with corresponding movements in prices. Trade demand has been in evidence, both from America and the Continent, but the actual volume of business has been on a moderate scale.

American consumption for February is slightly less than anticipated at 28,797 tons, compared with 28,557 tons, in January. It is evident from these figures that consumption in America during the first three months of 1931 will fall short of the original estimate of 100,000 tons. So far, 57,354 tons have been used and it would seem that an aggregate of around 90,000 tons for the quarter would be nearer the mark. This total compares with 105,000 tons for the January/March, 1931, quarter. During the past month stocks in the U.S.A. have increased by more than 3,000 tons and supplies afloat exceed 63,000 tons, as against 56,000 tons at the end of January. These figures are extremely bearish and only go to emphasize the urgent necessity of co-operative curtailment by producers.

The negotiations between British and Dutch producers move with the slowness to which we have become accustomed in their previous dealings with one another and an announcement is not likely to be made for some time. As usual, the utmost secrecy is being observed in the negotiations, so that the market is completely in the dark as to what is likely to happen, but there is an underlying feeling of optimism that there will emerge from these deliberations a scheme satisfactory to all concerned.

EMPIRE TEA

We reproduce below a letter published in 'The Home and Colonial Mail' of February 26, 1931, from Mr. J. R. H. Pinckney who is well-known in Tea Association circles, and who has kindly given us permission to publish his letter which we are sure will prove of general interest.

To the Editor of the Home and Colonial Mail.

SIR,

The present wave of depression over the Tea Industry makes it imperative that shareholders should assist themselves, and this they might do in the following way:—

It is essential to create a demand for Empire Tea and to obtain protection in the home market from foreign imports.

With regard to the first point, it must be a matter of common knowledge to most shareholders that they are continually being offered 'China or other tea', and that the sale of Empire tea as such is not pressed. By Empire tea is meant tea grown in India, Ceylon, or other Imperial Dominion or Colony, and sold as such, or a blended tea which contains only such Imperial-grown Tea, without any admixture of foreign tea, that is, 'tea' grown in Java, Sumatra, China, or elsewhere.

A demand for such Empire Tea should lead to its being more extensively supplied, and would be of material assistance, should it be decided,

to make a further application for a Marking Order, in identifying the contents of the packets of tea offered for sale.

In addition, shareholders should press their Members of Parliament for the reimposition of the duty on foreign tea. Shareholders do not perhaps realize to what extent foreign tea is imported to this country. In 1928 Java and Sumatra alone imported to this country over 64 million pounds out of their total exports of 153 million pounds; that is to say, 42 per cent of their total exports came to this country. In April, 1929, the duty on foreign tea was removed, and in that year the imports of Java and Sumatra tea to this country rose to 80 million pounds out of a total export to all countries of 158 million pounds. In other words, 50 per cent of these exports came to this country.

I suggest that shareholders might materially help themselves and the British Tea Companies in which they are interested, by pressing the above points on all possible occasions.

Yours faithfully,

HUNTERFORD, BERKS.

February 25, 1931.

(Sd.) J. R. H. PINCKNEY.

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'SHIKAR' NOTES

A TALE OF 5 TIGER

Extract of Diary from January 23 to February 2, 1931

January 23-24, 1931.—News of kill 15 miles away—motored to spot and in machan by 5 p.m. 6 p.m. monkeys started swearing: 6-30 p.m. low moan from tiger in thick cover behind me: 7 p.m. animal galloped heavily through cover behind me, followed by another: realized that they were tiger: 7-15 p.m. jungle seemed to be full of tiger: 7-30 p.m. tiger at kill, turned on torch, and saw 5 tiger grouped round the kill including an enormous brute: which stepped back before I could fire. Killed the next largest, a tigress,—rest scattered. In 5 minutes heard a tiger crossing my front, and turning on the torch, killed a tigress. The big tiger then started to call (the usual 'Ar-r-o-ungh') and kept this up continuously till 5 a.m., when he commenced to feed, and I shot him. Gathered up the three tiger at 6-30 a.m., loaded them into the Ford van, and back on the Estate by 9 a.m.

Measurements:—(1) 9' 10", (2) 8' 7", (3) 7' 5". Returned in the afternoon and sat up again over kill in hopes of seeing the other two tiger. Heard one, or both, moving about, but the kill was not approached.

January 25.—Met one of the tiger while motoring late to the kill near the same place—quite dark and unfortunately blew its lower jaw off.

January 26.—Tracked wounded tiger all day. Tiger avoided all thick cover, and kept to open short grass: blood ceased, and tracks lost; Went northwards to a large nulla, and found fresh tracks on sand.

January 27.—Visited nulla again, and while there, got news of fresh kill—had machan erected, and shot the fifth and last of the group, a tigress (7' 10") a mile north of the same spot over a natural kill at 7-30 p.m.

January 28-31.—Visited nulla daily endeavouring to locate tiger—fresh tracks on sand every day, but impossible to find where tracks led to—away from nulla.

February 1 and 2.—Sat up over nulla all night hoping to see tiger on his usual visit to water—no luck—got down at 6-30 a.m. and walked up

nulla—sure enough fresh tracks again higher up, but wet this time—damp tracks on dry sand—followed tracks up nulla bank on to hard ground—tracks no longer visible, but after creeping along narrow game path through thick lantana for about 15 yards, was signalled back by my tracker who had spotted the tiger lying down tail on, about 4 yards off the path. Raked tiger with tail shot: tiger struggled, roaring, for a few seconds, and then lay still: fired again to make sure of him. Found tiger was in a terrible condition: lower jaw completely gone, and a thick mass of maggots covering inside of mouth and over the whole wound. The poor brute had been like this for a week. Its tongue was intact, which had enabled it to drink. A male—exactly 8'.

BILLIGIRIRANGANS.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

It is hereby notified for general information that, with effect from April 16, 1931, and until further intimation, the Collector of Madras will, in addition to the Secretary to Government, Law Department, issue passports to all British subjects, Indian or European, and subjects of Indian States in subordinate alliance with the British Government, intending to travel to places outside the Indian Empire. The Collector will also, in addition to the Secretary to Government, Law Department, grant visas on foreign passports. Nationals of Foreign Government with which His Majesty's Government have not agreements for the abolition of British visas, intending to leave British India to proceed to any part of His Majesty's Dominions, or to British Protectorates, Protected States or Mandated territories, may apply for the grant of visas on their passports either to the Collector of Madras or to the Secretary to Government, Law Department, Stonehouse Hill, the Nilgiris. All applications for visas should be forwarded through the respective Consular representatives if they are resident in Madras.

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DISTRICT NOTES

COORG

Minutes of a quarterly General Meeting of the Coorg Planters' Association held in the Bamboo Club, Pollibetta on Monday, March 30, 1931 at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), P. G. Tipping, L. Newcome, J. S. H. Morgan, G. Scotland, G. A. Tippetts-Aylmer, D. J. Duncan, E. C. H. Morgan, K. B. Cunningham, C. L. J. Humphreys, R. J. D'Vaz, H. B. Babbington, S. P. St. C. Raymond, C. Raith, W. A. F. Bracken, R. P. W. Potter, Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland, Major V. L. Wynard-Wright and Mr A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitors :

Messrs. E. W. Duncan, J. Egerton and D. F. Mursell.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, were taken as read and confirmed.

UPASI Budget.—The Budget was discussed in Committee, and it was afterwards proposed by Mr. J. S. H. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Bracken that the Delegates to

the UPASI General Committee Meeting should be given a free hand in supporting the recommendations of the Executive Committee.

Coffee Scientific Officer.—The following resolution proposed by Mr. Newcome and seconded by Mr. Bracken was put to the Meeting :—

' That this Association asks Dr. Coleman, through the Executive Committee, for the services of the Coffee Scientific Officer, to tour in Coorg at least twice within the next twelve months with a view to starting and advising on field experiments and pests and diseases.

The expenses of the tours to be met from the large funds standing to the credit of Coffee for scientific purposes, or from the interest thereon.'

Carried

Read letters from Dr. Coleman and Mr. Mayne re proposed visit of the Coffee Scientific Officer to Coorg. The meeting was of the opinion that those members who required Mr. Mayne's services should send in their names at once to the Honorary Secretary who would try to make arrangements for Mr. Mayne to tour the district in July.

UPASI Sports Club.—Read letter from Mr. A. P. D. Lodge concerning the reconstitution of this Club. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to reply to the effect that any new scheme would be given careful consideration.

S.I.P.B. Fund.—Read letter of thanks from a member who had received help from this Fund.

Read letter No. 11054 from the Secretary, S.I.P.B. Fund, and the Meeting decided that the grant should be continued for a further six months.

Correspondence.—Read proceedings of the U.P.A.S.I. Executive Committee Meeting, and the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I.'s Report.

Read letter from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I. re Tung Oil.

The U.P.A.S.I. Half-yearly accounts were placed on the table.

Read letter from Mr. Newcome proposing that the Honorary Secretary of the C. P. A. and the Secretary of the M. P. A. exchange Notices calling meetings to prevent the dates coinciding. The meeting was in favour of this procedure.

Read letter from Mr. Tipping re Timber-Sawing Rates.

Other Business.—The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs, Mysore, regarding the dangerous condition of the telegraph wires on the Somwarpet-Fraserpur road, and also to complain of the length of time taken in the transit of telegrams from the West Coast.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the Executive Engineer of the P. W. D. concerning the dangerous practice of heaping metal at road corners.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary and members of the Bamboo Club for the use of their room.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

—:o:—

CORRESPONDENCE

Tea Propaganda

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

SIR,

I read with interest Mr. McMullin's letter on Tea Propaganda in your issue of the 28th inst. It seems to me that the Indian Tea Cess Committee is completely lacking in 'Pep'. They have been discussing the matter of a Central Tea Packing Factory for India, but from what one can judge of the progress being made, the Tea industry will be down and out before they get a move on.

It is admitted the potential market in India is enormous and a definite scheme was put forward for furthering sales by means of this Central Packing Factory, but a Tea Cess Committee with a little more life in it, is required to get it going.

Considering the amount of money this Committee have had for pushing sales of Indian Tea, the results are negligible.

Yours, etc.,
B. O. P.

March 31, 1931.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Mar. 12, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 12, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 12, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, March 12 and 19, 1931, respectively)				N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —				S. India.	a 0 11·82	b 1 0·82	c 1 2·28
Nalla Mudi	94	1 4 (19)		Ceylon...	1 2·58	1 3·94	1 1·99
Thay Mudi	164	1 3½ (19)		Java ...	0 7·00	0 8·81	0 9·48
Gajam Mudi	194	1 3 (12)		Sumatra.	0 7·83	0 9·62	0 10·74
Mukotti Mudi	62	1 3 (12)		Nyassa-	Nil	0 8·85	0 8·97
Thay Mudi	327	1 2½ (19)		Total...	d 0 10·79	e 1 0·75	f 1 2·60
Mukotti Mudi	169	1 2½ (19)					
Anai Mudi	146	1 1½ (12)					
Periakaramalai	182	1 1½ (12)					
(b) <i>Central Travancore-Fairfield Twyford and Ashley Estates</i> —	68*	1 2½ (12)		District	Week ending March 19, 1931	January 1 to March 19, 1931	January 1 to March 19, 1930
*Vembanaad	77	1 1½ (19)		N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Mount	76	1 1½ (19)		S. India.	g 1 0·10	h 1 0·78	i 1 2·39
Glenmary	96	1 1 (19)		Ceylon ...	1 3·30	1 3·90	1 6·18
*Bon Ami	117	1 0½ (12)		Java ..	0 7·32	0 8·67	0 9·50
Pambanar	73	1 0½ (12)		Südfatra	0 8·32	0 9·54	0 10·85
Granby	50	1 0½ (19)		Nyassa-	0 6·72	0 8·59	0 9·07
(c) <i>Karan Devans</i> —				land.			
Yellapatty	42	1 8½ (12)		Total ...	j 0 11·11	k 1 0·62	l 1 2·71
Periavurral	158	1 7½ (12)					
Thenmallay	189	1 6½ (12)					
Chundavurral	96	1 5½ (12)					
Sevenmallay	35	1 5½ (12)					
Nadiar	96	1 5 (12)					
Pullivassal	35	1 4½ (12)					
Gundumallay	101	1 4 (12)					
Thenmallay	105	1 3½ (19)					
Grahamslam	59	1 3½ (12)					
Pertavurral	143	1 3½ (19)					
(d) <i>Nilgiris</i> —							
Nonsuch	112	1 4½ (12)					
*Craigmore	144	1 2½ (12)					
Ibex Lodge	109	1 2½ (12)					
*Bhawani	93	1 0½ (12)					
Chamraj	45	1 0½ (19)					
(e) <i>Mundakayam</i> —							
Valley End	66	0 10 (12)					
(f) <i>Nilgiri-H'ynaad</i> —							
Mayfield	124	0 9½ (12)					
Wentworth	71	0 10 (12)					
(g) <i>Malabar</i> —	78	0 7½ (12)					
Arthala	...						
(h) <i>Wynaad</i> —	98	0 9½ (12)					
Arrapeeta	...						
Kardoora	79	0 9 (12)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 5,888	b 58,890	c 80,621
d 83,822	e 921,432	f 913,215
g 3,778	h 62,668	i 85,115
j 77,467	k 998,899	l 987,577

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotations for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, April 7, 1931, was 3*1*½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, April 4, 1931, were 84,339 tons, an increase of 477 tons on March 28, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, April 4, 1931, were 49,502 tons, an increase of 1181 tons on March 28, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I.- The London Market—(Continued)

(C) COFFEE.—

SPECIAL CABLE

LONDON 'A' QUALITY

MARCH 25, 1931, 112s. MARKET

London Prices (Seven days ending March 11 and 18, 1931 respectively).

District	Bags	s. d.	Seven days ending March	Grades
<i>Anamallais—</i>				
Valparai Naduar	184 99	83 8 76 5	(11) (18)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T. Do.
<i>Coorg—</i>				
Pellibetta Cannon Kadu	75 95	87 4 80 8	(11) (11)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T. Nos. 1 and 2.
<i>Mysore—</i>				
PH and Co., Santawerry	79	132 5	(18)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
H.C.K. ...	50	128 7	(18)	Nos. 1, 2 and T.
PH and Co., J. Santawerry	69	120 11	(18)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Jiganehan K.	37	110 10	(18)	Nos. 1 and 2.
Cannon M.C.	152	106 5	(18)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Meppens Nugger	61	105 7	(11)	Nos. 1, 2 and PB.
Cannon BC.	121	104 3	(18)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Meppens Nugger	77	102 10	(18)	Nos. 1, 2, and PB.
O. Hospet	75	97 7	(18)	Nos. 1, 3, PB and T.
Waddaeooda	72	96 9	(11)	Nos. 1, 2, and PB.
MB. Honeyvale	110	95 6	(11)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Alegani H.	39	93 3	(11)	No. 1 and PB.
Chininhulli	64	93 3	(18)	No. 1, PB and T.
<i>Vellorepathies—</i>				
Palagapandy do.	68 55	77 8 75 9	(11) (11)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T. Nos. 1, 2, PB and T.
Cotengady	44	76 9	(18)	Nos. 1, 3, PB and T.
Seetagundy	279	73 6	(11)	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
<i>Shevaroys—</i>				
Waterford	53	80 2	(11)	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and T.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, April 9, 1931

Planting.—There was again nothing satisfactory to report in this section and the market kept very dull with no interest being taken by investors. **Raw Rubber** has weakened to about 3½d. and share values were marked down further. The same remarks apply to **Tea shares**. The only transaction reported was in *Devasholas* at Rs. 6.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 3 9	—
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 12 6	—
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 10 3	— 1s. 9d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 6	—
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	—
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 10 4	— 1½d.
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	—
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 4 3	— 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 18 6	—
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 15 0	—

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	
Cochins Rs. 15	10	
Devasholas Rs. 9		6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10		24
Kalesas Rs. 15		6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	32½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	8
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100		95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10		41
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100		95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	14	17
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	28	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating		21
Pernasholas Rs. 10		1½
Periyars Rs. 10	1½	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	6	7
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	94	96
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)		13½

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the auction of 31st March totalled 2,592,503 lbs. Quality generally was not maintained. There was fair demand for teas below 40 cents but prices for other grades, where sales were made, were much lower. A considerable number of lots were withdrawn without bids. **Nuwara Eliya:** Quality showed a decline. There was a fair demand at a lower level of prices. **High Grown:** Quality was not generally maintained. All grades were in poor request, and the market was distinctly easier. **Medium Grown:** Quality was useful, but these grades were again practically neglected and there were large withdrawals, no bids having been obtained.

Low Grown: There was a good demand at a slight decline in prices. **Fannings and Dusts:** A few best liquoring sorts met with demand but all other descriptions were not wanted and prices eased considerably.

South Indian Teas in Auction of March 17 and 24, 1931, respectively obtained the following prices:—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average	Dated March
Chittavurrai	11,178	1·24	17
do.	14,780	1·19	24
Sothuparai	19,706	1·18	24
Rob Roy	3,695	1·10	24
Kanniamallay	23,144	1·00	17
Madupatty	19,882	99	17
Pullivasal	20,793	83	24
Elapara	8,780	33	24

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

March 22, 1931 to April 4, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	82·13	82·13	24. Coonoor	0·84	46·45	47·29
2. Kalthuritty.	...	119·39	119·39	25. Kotagiri	0·91	63·78	64·69
3. Kallar Bdg.	...	152·08	152·08	26. Ootacamund.	0·07	57·93	58·00
4. Koney	2·60	125·35	127·95	27. Yercaud	...	65·27	65·27
5. Pattanapura.	...	111·58	111·58	28. Mango Range	...	111·87	111·87
6. M'kayam	...	88·35	88·35	29. Devala	...	92·77	92·77
6a Peravanthan.	...	193·64	193·64	30. Devarshola.	...	76·31	76·31
7. Peermade	0·18	200·03	200·21	31. CALICUT	...	115·32	115·32
8. Twyford	0·48	244·55	245·03	32. Kuttiyadi	...	131·86	131·86
9. V'periyar	0·41	96·52	96·93	33. Vayltri	0·39	155·15	155·54
10. Kalaar	...	220·45	220·45	34. Manantoddi.	0·17	102·38	102·55
11. Chittuvurrai	...	55·65	55·65	35. Billigiris	...	83·91	83·91
12. Bod'i-KANUR	...	26·76	26·76	36. Sidapur	...	32·75	32·75
13. COCHIN	3·48	115·67	119·15	37. Pollichetta	...	76·42	76·42
14. Mooply	1·09	140·62	141·71	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	0·46	123·60	124·06	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis	0·78	190·71	191·49	40. Kadamanie	0·91	230·07	230·98
17. POLLACHIE	...	47·06	47·06	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	122·44	122·44	42. Balehonuur	...	71·31	71·31
19. Karapara	...	154·08	154·08	43. Morthisubgey.	...	110·96	110·96
20. Pullengode..	2·20	129·45	131·65	44. Kelagur	...	107·36	107·36
21. Nilambur	...	98·49	98·49	45. Durgadbettia.	1·27	101·39	103·26
22. Naduvattam	...	126·61	126·61	46. MANGALORE	...	136·20	136·20
23. Nilgiri Peak.	...	124·57	124·57	47. MADRAS	...	68·72	68·72

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously (i.e., from April 1, 1930)

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 9]

April 25, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

ON page 180 *et seq* of this number, we are reproducing the speech made by Mr. P. H. Carpenter, Chief Scientific Officer of the Indian Tea Association, at the Proceedings of their Fiftieth Annual Indian Tea Association. General Meeting held at the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the 20th ultimo.

Space does not permit of a full report being given of other notable speeches but we should like to refer to that of Mr. J. A. Milligan, Superintendent of the Tea Districts Labour Association. During times of crisis, both industrial and otherwise, one is apt to consider the particular occasion as being the worst ever experienced but things go on in spite of it and in time one looks back and wonders what there was to have been upset about.

Mr. Milligan confirms this point of view and in the hope that his words will bring solace to those planters who see only the depths of depression in the existing state of the tea industry, the following extract of his speech is given:—

'This occasion is painfully reminiscent of the first meeting of the Association at which I had the honour of being present, namely, the corresponding meeting in 1921.

Then, as now, the industry was in the depths of pessimism, and it seemed that the sun of prosperity would never again shine upon the patient tea-bush. That crisis quite suddenly passed away, and ever since there has been a tendency to minimize its gravity, but at the time I may remind you that you considered it to be the worst ever.'

There are many who regard the present depression as a slough of despond from which the industry cannot emerge for a very long time. I am not in a position to comment on that view, but I would suggest that some effort be made during this crisis to put the industry on a more secure basis for meeting future emergencies which experience has led us to expect every ten years or so. Looking back on the crisis of ten years ago I think you will agree that the industry was restored to prosperity merely by temporary measures and circumstantial changes in the general position and not by any specific action on its own part effecting permanent improvements in its economic outlook. It will be a pity if the present crisis is weathered merely by external developments, and if the occasion passes without the achievement of some far-reaching reforms which will permanently strengthen the position of the tea industry of North India.

Economies of a temporary and emergent character must of course be made, but such action can only be regarded as a palliative and not as a solution of your difficulties. Remembering what happened in 1921 it will be a pity if the panic urge for immediate economies should compel you to actions which you will bitterly regret as soon as the dawn of prosperity again brightens the horizon.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

CONDITIONS IN MALAYA

The Singapore correspondent of *The Times* sends some moderately reassuring views regarding the local employment situation and the rubber industry. He finds that to-day, after at least six months of acute depression, there are not more than 200 unemployed Europeans in the whole of Malaya. That a few of these men were faced, in the early days of the depression, with the prospect of starvation in a tropical country he does not deny, but unemployment committees have now been established in various centres and planters and other Europeans in need of assistance are being drafted to a camp at Port Dickson, where they are absorbed temporarily into the Malay States Volunteer Forces. Although this system has been in operation for nearly three months and no eligible applicants have been turned away, there were only 43 men in the camp at the time he wrote (January 8). The scheme covers the whole country, and, in addition to the men in the Service Company of the M.S.V.R., 14 applicants have been found employment, ten have found employment for themselves, and four have been repatriated by the committee, which now announces that it 'does not desire at present to make a general appeal for funds as . . . there is sufficient to meet present expenditure.' *The Times* correspondent considers it is doubtful whether the number of Europeans who have left the country since the beginning of the crisis exceeds 150. Many commercial firms, instead of dismissing assistants, chose the alternative of offering to retain full staffs on reduced rates of pay. The cuts, representing, in extreme cases 50 per cent, but averaging about 15 per cent, have been accepted in a spirit of co-operation.

* * *

WORST OF THE DEPRESSION OVER

Speaking at a luncheon of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce at Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. John McHugh, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Chase National Bank, expressed the opinion that the worst of the

world depression in business is past and that better times are ahead. 'The United States,' he said, 'will not stay long on a level of business as low as that of the winter of 1930-31, nor will the outside world.'

'Part of our troubles are the unavoidable consequences of valid causes; part of our troubles will not immediately disappear; but a large part is the consequence of a paralysing fear, unreasonable and partly unreasoning, and when this fear gives way to reasoned calculation of facts business will speedily become substantially better.'

'I am not disposed to think that we can dissipate fear merely by talking cheerfully or that we can dissipate unreason merely by talking reasonably, though both of these things help. Rather my experience would teach me that there is a certain rhythm in these matters, but there is a law in human psychology of action and reaction; fear and enthusiasm are emotional rather than intellectual; we get rid of them by going through them. After a while they wear themselves out. The change comes not with the change in the fact but merely with the rebound in our spirits.'

* * * *

TEA RESTRICTION

The causes that led to the discontinuation of the tea restriction scheme are dealt with in an article by the Assistant Secretary of the Association for Tea Culture in the Netherlands East Indies. The failure is ascribed to the Dutch Indies native grower of inferior quality. By the scheme in force last year the Dutch Indian export figures should have shown a reduction of ten million pounds. On the contrary, the figures did not reflect the influence of restriction because of native production. The European tea producers in the Netherlands Indies, who used to buy the great majority of native-grown tea, demanded that these teas should be of the same high quality as those produced by the growers under the restriction scheme. This the natives refused, and they immediately found ready buyers among the Chinese factories. The reason for this refusal by the natives and for the eagerness of the Chinese factories to purchase these very inferior teas, says the writer, was that immediately after it had been decided to restrict output the British blenders feared that this would mean the end of cheap Java tea, because the cheapest British blend was now in imminent danger of competition. In order to prevent this the merchants at Batavia were instructed from London to buy as much as possible of the inferior native tea for the Chinese factories. The native responded to the additional demand, and in this way the production of native tea increased, and the restriction scheme failed. The Dutch Indian growers in December decided to release native production from the bond of restriction because of these factors.—*The Home and Colonial Mail*.

* * * *

PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL FAIR INCREASES ITS SIZE

Czecho-Slovakia, one of the most industrial and progressive countries on the Continent of Europe—writes a correspondent from Prague to *The Produce Markets Review*—has been less hit by the world-wide depression than other countries. Although the number of unemployed has risen to 300,000 in the winter months, it is expected that a great deal of unemployment will be absorbed by constructional and building activities, road and public buildings standing in the front. An extensive programme for road reconstruction and land betterment schemes have been adopted by Parliament, and many municipalities have made use of the present cheapness of money to invest in new enterprises. While it is taken for granted that the present

crisis can be solved only by international action, public opinion is confident that the Czech industries will successfully resist present difficulties.

An example for this moderated optimism is furnished by the growth of the Prague Sample Fair. Extensions had to be made for the Spring Fair, which was held from March 22 to 29, 1931. More than 3,000 exhibitors, both home and foreign, applied for space. Several new sections were added, viz., 'The Modern Foundry,' 'Varnishes and Paints,' 'Rubber and allied industries,' 'Hotel Furnishing' etc. A special feature of this Fair was a large Motor Cycle Exhibition, Wireless Exhibition and Furniture Section that covered several thousand square feet.

Several countries sent collective exhibits to the Fair, the more important being those of France, Latvia and India. English, German and Austrian firms also were numerous. Tourist traffic received special attention. Czecho-Slovakia itself being a country visited by a growing number of foreign tourists and holiday seekers every year.

Spring is a specially pleasant season at Prague. Visitors to the Fair thus combined with advantage, profitable business with pleasure and recreation.

RUBBER EXPERIMENTAL STATION, MUNDAKAYAM

REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1931

I. INTRODUCTORY

I have to report my arrival at the Station on January 7 and the assumption of full charge on January 10.

Mr. Frattini, in handing over, went to considerable trouble to make matters simple, and I should like here to record my appreciation.

II. STAFF

Mr. T. R. Ramaier, Senior Indian Assistant.

" T. V. Cheriako, Senior Laboratory Assistant.

" A. Krishna Pillai, } Laboratory Assistants.

" K. A. Varughese, } Laboratory Assistants.

" M. V. Mani, Office Writer.

At the time of my arrival the Staff of the Station was as given above. Mr. Cheriako left on February 28, to resume his post with the Department of Agriculture, and was succeeded by Mr. V. T. Abraham, B.A.

Mr. Frattini informed me that he had divided the work into three sections—Field, Laboratory and Office—and as it is thought that some such arrangement is essential this system has been retained. Mr. Ramaier is in charge of the field work, Mr. Abraham and Mr. Varughese are in the Laboratory, and Mr. Krishna Pillai who normally takes charge of budding, spraying and yield records, is employed partly in the field and partly in the Laboratory. He has also taken Mr. Ramaier's place while the latter was on leave and has carried out the work satisfactorily.

III. LABORATORY WORK

(i) *Distinctive features of Clones.*—The importance of being able to distinguish the various clones when the plants are young needs no emphasis, especially when we consider the large quantities of budwood now changing hands. The discovery of some unmistakable character by which the different jats of budwood could be distinguished would be of the

greatest assistance in the prevention of mistakes and also of fraud. Study of this subject had apparently been suggested previously, and the Rubber Advisory Committee asked me to initiate investigations.

(a) *Cortex Examination*.—The suggestion made was that some anatomical feature might be found which would be characteristic of the Clone. While it is possible that in a few cases some special arrangement of the tissues or unusual development of a particular tissue, etc., may provide a clue to the origin of the material, it is not thought likely that a definite test of this description will be discovered for all clones.

Investigations have however been started, and Mr. Abraham is preparing sections by microtome for a study in the first instance of the Phloem tissues—the conducting system of the cortex.

The work is held up temporarily pending the arrival of certain reagents from Calcutta, and also by the fact that the embedding oven is out of order. An attempt is being made to alter the old Hearson's Incubator so that it can be heated electrically, and provided with an automatic regulator.

(b) *Leaf Measurement*.—At the same time leaf measurements are being made, and certain ratios worked out on the lines suggested by an officer of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya. These ratios are characteristic of the clone. As in measurements of this kind the personal factor crops up the method may not provide an absolutely certain clue in all cases, but from the figures available to-date it promises to be a very useful check.

One mother tree which had been 'lost' has already been recovered by this method.

A complete round of all the clones on the Station is being made.

IV. FIELD WORK

(i) *Budding*.—No budding has been done to-date, but arrangements have been made to start on April 1, 200 plants (approx.) are required to plant up a small piece of land which will be mentioned under (iii) below. There are also numerous vacancies in the various clearings which are to be supplied.

The main budding this year will, however, be done in the Multiplication nursery. The plants remaining in the 1927 nursery should provide excellent stock for this purpose, and this nursery has been divided up into little blocks of five to seven trees each.

The budwood to be used will be obtained from high-yielding trees on estates, and as in most cases it will not be from pollarded trees several buds will be attached to each stock to ensure a certain measure of success.

A circular letter sent round to all rubber estates subscribing to the U.P.A.S.I. showed that the majority of Superintendents were willing to supply the Station with small quantities of budwood for experimental purposes. It is hoped in this way to obtain approximately 100 new clones this year.

A Mother Tree record book and a Multiplication nursery book have been printed so that all available information about the new trees can be entered at once. There will, unfortunately, in many cases, be no detailed yield records, but it is thought unwise to neglect a likely tree because of this.

This budwood nursery will permit next year of a certain amount of selection from the point of view of resistance to Phytophthora, 'budability' growth, etc., and there will be budwood available when it is found possible to open up new land.

(ii) *Test Tapping.*—Arrangements have been made for the resumption of this work on April 1.

Tapping was stopped at the end of last year as the yield dropped very badly in most cases. This was probably a mistake as it is important for S. India to discover clones which will yield reasonably well during the extensive dry season. It is intended that tapping will now be continuous. Cuts on one-half circumference at one metre have been marked out on all trees showing a girth of 40 c.m. or above, at that height. In all, 245 trees have been marked. When the trees have been tapped previously, the new cut has been put on the opposite side of the trunk.

On 21 trees of a clone which is represented by a fairly large number of individuals a second cut on half circumference has been opened at a height of 2 metres. The opinion is held that all clones will eventually have to be subjected to trial tappings on different systems before that most suitable is discovered. With our present mixed population on estates it is impossible to tap every tree on the system to which it is best suited so as to get the maximum yield consistent with health and good renewal, but where there are whole fields of one clone this factor can be studied, as all the individuals will be structurally identical and there will be no question of the poorest tree 'setting the pace'. It seems very likely that in future the tapping system best suited to each clone will be known and acted on.

A clone yielding only $\frac{2}{3}$ the yield of another may prove more economical if it can be tapped on 2 cuts without danger of Brown Bast or poor renewal.

(iii) *Opening Work.*—Shortly after my arrival it was discovered that a villager at the lower end of the Station had encroached on the land to the extent of about half an acre. This area has been recovered, and along with a similarly sized block adjoining previously given out as a cooly garden, but largely neglected, has been contour platform terraced. It is my intention to plant up 50 plants of each of the four most promising clones on the Station in this area during June-July.

(iv) *Water Conservation.*—The whole of planted area on the Station has been partly water trapped, an average of 50 pits an acre 6ft. long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. having been cut. It is my firm belief that the low yields obtained by many estates in the district are not due so much to the loss by rain in the monsoon as to diminution in flow during the first four months of the year on account of drought and hot land winds. The above is looked on as a first step in the conservation in the soil of as much of the water falling on it during the North-East Monsoon as possible.

(v) *Weeds.*—The work of sickling down the heavy growth of weeds was in hand when I arrived and was completed. It is intended completely to replace this by leguminous plants during the coming season. To-date quantities of cover-crop seed have been received from Mr. Murray of Chackiparamba Estate and the Principal of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and thanks are due to these gentlemen.

Apart from this small quantities of seed have been collected on the Station principally of *Crotalaria striata* and *Calopogonium mucunoides*.

(vi) *Pricking Tests.*—Pricking tests have been carried out on a small number of 2-3 year old nursery plants which had been placed in Mr. Ash-plant's A and B classes. One or two plants which showed a good flow will be multiplied in the Budwood nursery, and further tests carried out there.

V. PESTS AND DISEASES

(i) *Bandicoots.*—The Station was found in January to be overrun with bandicoots and considerable damage had been done to the young trees.

Normally the plant is attacked just below ground level and the tap root completely severed. While complete eradication has not yet been effected their number has been very much reduced by the use of Calcium cyanide (*Cyanagas*).

(ii) *Sunscorch*.—Sunscorch of young budded plants and in one case of normal seedlings has been reported from four estates.

Little can be done once the plants are attacked except that disinfectant or tar should be applied to exposed wood to prevent the entry of parasitic or weakly parasitic fungi. Nitrogenous manuring can also be expected to speed up the natural healing over of the wounds.

On the other hand much can be done to prevent attack. All cases seen or reported to-date have been on the South-Eastern, Southern or South-Western side of the plants and low shade such as would be afforded by East and West hedges of *Tephrosia* or *Crotalaria* will help considerably. Such hedges can be allowed to grow up after the North-East Monsoon so as to provide as much shade as possible during the hot weather and they can be pruned down in May when they will provide considerable quantities of mulch.

It is also thought that shelter such as is provided by *Dadaps* or *Gliricidia* would greatly benefit young clearings during the land wind period.

Two cases only of Sunscorch have been observed on the Station.

VI. BUILDINGS

Various minor repairs and alterations have been carried out to the Buildings and most are now in a satisfactory state. A note, however, is considered desirable on the Senior Assistant's Bungalow at present occupied by Mr. Abraham. This building while probably constructed of better material than any other on the Station is either not designed for tile roofing or the wrong type of tile has been used. The roof gradient is too gentle, and during rain, in the absence of ceilings, the rooms are filled with fine spray blown in under the tiles.

VII. WATER-SUPPLY

The water-supply on my arrival was quite inadequate and positively dangerous. There was no proper well and the Engine Pump was, and still is, out of order.

A well has been dug at a slightly higher level and the water is to be piped down to a tank just outside the pumping-house. The work is not yet completed, but water uncontaminated by the swamp, from which water is at present carried, should be obtained. It is however my opinion that the engine (1½ B. H. P.) is too light to pump water to the tank at the top of the Station. The two wells actually on the Station from which water can be obtained at certain season have been dry since January 1.

VIII. OFFICE

A room in the Laboratory previously used as a Store-room has been cleaned up and is now used as an office. This is considered more satisfactory than having the office in the Bungalow.

A complete list of all tools, supplies, chemicals, etc. on the Station has been made. A stock-book has been started, and a system of issue inaugurated.

IX. GENERAL

A Meeting of the Rubber Advisory Committee was attended at the Station on January 23.

X. WEATHER RECORDS

The rainfall for the year ending March 31 has amounted to 184.56 inches distributed as below :—

<i>Month</i>		<i>1st Fortnight</i>	<i>2nd Fortnight</i>
April	1930	... 2.73 ins.	6.04 ins.
May	"	14.50 "	7.28 "
June	"	13.33 "	15.27 "
July	"	5.43 "	15.70 "
August	"	7.48 "	5.38 "
September	"	17.24 "	11.78 "
October	"	19.10 "	11.67 "
November	"	13.10 "	9.70 "
December	"	1.93 "	1.66 "
January 1931		...	...
February	"	0.03 "	0.18 "
March	"	3.65 "	1.38 "
Total	...	98.52 "	86.04 " 184.56

It is thought that the following records should also be kept as effect of these factors on yield of rubber must be considerable.

Continuous Temperature record

„	Barometer	"
„	Humidity	"

One instrument to record all three can be obtained for about £18, and the purchase of two such instruments to ensure continuity is thought desirable.

MUNDAKAVAM,
April 6, 1931.

R. A. TAYLOR,
Rubber Scientific Officer.

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INDIAN TEA CESS COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN

Although in the hot weather the poorer classes in India are much less inclined to drink hot tea than in the cold, the Tea Cess Committee have decided to immediately launch their campaign into new territory where no propaganda has hitherto been attempted.

Towns situated on the bus routes and the surrounding villages and hâts in both Northern and Southern India have been selected for intensive propaganda work. The main objects of this work are (1) to give the inhabitants an opportunity of tasting, free of charge, good sound tea properly prepared, and (2) in arranging channels for subsequent steady supplies at reasonable prices. In this connection suitable shopkeepers are selected and given preliminary assistance and instruction in the purchase and care of their stocks. By this means, conditions are created conducive to the steady growth of the tea-drinking habit. By demonstrations and lectures the desirability of tea-drinking is kept well before the public in towns, villages and hâts, and sales of tea in packets are conducted on behalf of and in the presence of shopkeepers, who are thereby encouraged to keep their stocks in good condition and push the sale of tea.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF RUBBER EXPORTS

PROPOSED DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS STOCKS

Shareholders in rubber companies responded in large numbers to an invitation to discuss the present position of the industry at a meeting held recently at Cannon Street Hotel, E. C.

The meeting was convened by Mr. E. D. Money, Chairman and Director of several rubber companies, who explained that he was acting entirely on his own responsibility and was supported by no committee. One of the subjects brought up for discussion was 'Dutch Co-operation or Economic War,' and in considering whether control of rubber was possible, Mr. Money put forward the suggestion that there should be no interference with production in the controlled countries, but that the Governments should decide on the proportion of the rubber produced that could be exported, and then destroy the remainder on the spot.

Mr. Money said that, as the meeting knew, a deputation had recently come from Holland for the purpose of discussing with representatives of the Rubber Growers' Association the possibility of co-operation for the control of rubber. After discussions lasting a day or two, an adjournment for a fortnight had been made, and during that fortnight he felt that no harm could be done by fair and open discussion of the problems confronting the industry. The Stevenson scheme, which came to an untimely end, had led to a great many delusions. No one, for instance, conceived that it would be possible to produce rubber at any time at a cost of 4d. per pound. The facts had shown that everyone was wrong. Rubber was to-day being produced at 4d. per pound, and he would say that the majority of companies were capable of producing at that figure. That was the very danger they were up against ; if they liked to accept the position and continue to supply the world with rubber at 4d., the world would continue to take it.

IS CONTROL POSSIBLE ?

The industry had to see whether the export of rubber from the East could not be controlled. Less than a year ago, they were told that the Dutch Government had stated that the native would object to control of rubber, and that the Government had no intention of introducing any legislation. Any control of rubber which was to come about, the speaker suggested, would come through the definite sanction of the Dutch Government in Holland, and if they, as shareholders, had any influence at all, they must use that influence directly on that Government.

Was any scheme for the control of rubber possible ? Most of the schemes suggested from time to time were utterly useless, because they suffered from some fundamental defect. The schemes might be divided into two categories—namely, those which aimed at controlling production, and those which did not attempt to interfere with production, but merely controlled the export of the commodity. He did not believe that it was impossible to have a scheme which would be watertight, fair and applicable to all the different countries. There was a scheme which was practicable, which would control rubber perfectly and which would not interfere with production in any part of the East. The scheme he had in mind had been mentioned several times, and he would like to know what practical objections there were to it.

The scheme—which was not his own—was that everyone in the controlled countries should be allowed to produce as much rubber as they liked, and then if the Governments by agreement should, from time to time,

decide what proportion of the rubber tendered for export might be exported and take the remainder and destroy it on the spot, that would be a means of control which would be watertight and fair to everybody. The strongest argument against this scheme was the natural repugnance of all right-thinking people to the destruction of something which had been produced at much labour.

Another argument against it was that there would be possible objections from the United States of America and other countries which did not produce much rubber in the East and yet consumed it. There would also be the fear that a scheme so simple and so advantageous to producers might tempt Colonial Governments to carry it to extremes. There was that danger, but he did not think that the Governments in the East should be accused of any possibility in that direction, and they were not likely to antagonise consumers by putting the price of rubber up to a fantastic level. As producers, they would be content with, say, 8d. per pound for the whole of their produce, a price which would enable good concerns to pay a modest dividend.

He had put this proposal forward to various friends and people who might be in a position of authority, and they said: 'Oh, no, you could not do it—it is silly.' He was putting the scheme forward to the meeting to find out a better reason than 'It is silly' for rejecting it. He wanted to know what fundamental reason there was for turning down this particular method. He was not putting it forward as the best scheme, but it was equitable and would enable the industry to pull itself together with a maximum of ease.

Mr. Money dealt with several other phases of the rubber situation and said that one of the main objects of calling the meeting was to ensure, if possible, that shareholders would take early steps to let their directors know that they were watching them, and that when a definite scheme was put forward which was supported by a large majority of producers, it should not be turned down by their particular Board. Shareholders did not appear to be willing to do anything to help themselves in the way of co-operation, and he was hoping that, as a result of the meeting, this attitude might be changed.

WORK OF THE R. G. A.

The meeting, he wished to make clear, had not been called as an attack upon the Rubber Growers' Association—it was, if anything, a suggestion that the Rubber Growers' Association required greater support. He had been a member of the Council of the Association, but he resigned because he felt that a large Council of something over 60 members was quite incapable of doing business as a body. What was wanted was a small council of workers who would take an active interest in their work. The Association was essential to the industry, and was the most valuable organization that it possessed, but he would like to see it made more powerful and so constituted and assisted with money that it could be more powerful.

Mr. Gibson, speaking as one of the pioneers of the industry, said that there was only one way of protecting the interests of producers, and that was by regulation of output, and there was no way of achieving that except by co-operation between the Dutch and British.

In reply to one speaker, who asked why, instead of destroying the surplus rubber, it could not be used for rubber roads, the Chairman said it would be impossible to deal with such a large quantity of rubber, or

anything approaching it, in this way in time to be of any practical benefit in the present slump.

Another speaker stressed the necessity for compulsory restriction, and it was also suggested that if any value was to be derived from the meeting, a strong resolution should be passed urging upon the R. G. A. the necessity for some continuing scheme which would be of benefit to the industry as a whole.

The Chairman said he thought that, simply stated, the suggested proposal was that the meeting expressed itself in favour of the control of rubber exports by the Eastern Governments.

In this form the resolution was carried with two dissentients, one of whom said that he was opposed to compulsory restriction because he believed it was better to leave the industry to find its own salvation.

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IDENTIFYING HEVEA CLONES

Remarkable New Method Described by Dr. Bobilioff

In a preliminary communication to *De Bergcultures* (of December 27, 1930), Dr. Bobilioff describes what appears to be an entirely new and very important and remarkable chemical method of distinguishing between Hevea clones.

At present, he points out, a Hevea clone is identified by a subjective examination of the external morphological characters. This method has the advantage that in many instances a great number of buddings can be identified in a short time. It is, however, confined—at the moment—to normally grown buddings in a certain stage of development, and it demands as well a certain aptitude for this sort of work.

In the new 'Chemical Method of Identification,' on the other hand, the clones are distinguished by a definite chemical reaction of the latex. So far this method has been carried out only in experiments, and Dr. Bobilioff refrains at present from discussing how far it may have practical value.

His discovery is that the latex from each clone gives a definite chemical reaction and that this reaction is fairly constant in all individuals of a clone. One advantage of this chemical method of identification is that the identification is independent of the age of the plants, that is to say, the latex from individuals of the same clone but of different ages will give the same reaction. Therefore it is possible to identify with clearness older test gardens.

In applying the method a few drops of latex are taken from young or half-grown leaves by cutting through the leaf-stalk where it is attached to the branch. The drops that appear on the cut surface of the stalk are collected on a porcelain plate, preferably one with depressions. In each depression the latex from one tree of the clone that is being examined is collected. Three- to five-leaf stalks will give sufficient latex for the reaction. To this small quantity of latex is added a reagent concerning which no particulars are given except that it is (1) a new discovery, (2) a colourless solution, and (3) the mixture of latex and reagent is white. In a short time, from half a minute to a few minutes, the latex begins to colour, and this colour increases in intensity.

The time of colouring, the nuances of colour, the intensity of the colour are different in different clones, so that it is possible to distinguish clones from each other.

As an example Dr. Bobilioff takes three clones, namely BD 2, AV 256 and Tjir I. After adding the reagent, the reaction occurs in about the same time for these clones. After one to two minutes the latex of these clones had assumed a rose colour, which in BD 2 and AV 256 is the same, but a careful examination indicates that in Tjir I a weak blue nuance appears to be present. It is in the second stage of the reaction that clear differences between these clones appear. The colour of Tjir I is pronouncedly blue, that of AV 256 is red and that of BD 2 is purple. These differences can be seen clearly in the third stage, that is from six to ten minutes. In these three clones the colour of the reaction can be used as a distinguishing character, while the intensity of the reaction and its time differ little.

There are, however, clones that can be distinguished merely by the intensity of the reaction, where, for example, the reaction is very weak and appears only after a long time. In the latex of AV 209 it is only after 45 minutes that a weak coloration begins to be apparent.

The method has been applied to a great number of clones in the experiment garden of the experiment station at Buitenzorg (Java) and also on several estates in West Java, where corresponding results were obtained.—*The India-Rubber Journal*.

EXTRACTS FROM PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON THE 20TH MARCH, 1931

MR. P. H. CARPENTER, Chief Scientific Officer, followed with the following address :—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The report of the Scientific Department is a lengthy one but it had to be so if a proper account of our activities during the past year is to be given to you. In the short time at my disposal it would be impossible to deal adequately with the report and I therefore purpose to call attention to some points of immediate economic value.

With the present state of the tea market the attention of many of you is doubtless directed towards the possibility of lowering costs of production and in some cases the first item of expenditure that receives criticism is the expenditure on manuring.

To curtail this expenditure is very easy and offers an apparently obvious method of reducing cost. I would like to point out that the saving that is so effected is a small one and that there are other items of expenditure that have a far greater influence on costs such as for instance labour which is outside the province of your Scientific Department and I cannot therefore discuss this problem. I call your attention to this as I wish to insist that the expenditure on manuring should not be the one that should receive first consideration.

It must be remembered that the amount of work that the tea bush can do is very closely related to the amount of food available for the bush. The less food the less work. Work in the case of the tea bush consists in the growing of new shoots for plucking. Therefore if the food supply to the

bush is curtailed it is also necessary to curtail the plucking, in other words this must be lighter. The tea bush like other living organisms is capable for a time of being overworked. But the extent to which it can be over-worked is related to the healthy condition of the bush. Doubtless a vigorous healthy bush can be overworked for a short period of time without any serious damage being done. It will, however, be depleted of reserve food. A weakly bush with little or no reserve of food material cannot be overworked to the same extent without its health being seriously affected. In order to make good tea it is necessary to pluck fine leaf and to obtain such leaf without the expense of breaking back necessitates plucking at close intervals of time, say at the most ten days. The plucking intervals are of course determined by the labour available, but I think more could yet be done on some gardens if the plucking were cleaner. As the time interval between plucking rounds becomes greater so must more attention be given to the cleaner plucking of the bushes. On many gardens considerable improvement in plucking is necessary before really good tea can be made.

The reversion to finer plucking is accompanied by loss of crop and without changes in the labour available it is unlikely that fine teas can be made without very appreciable loss of crop. For instance with seven day plucking to pluck fine leaf of two and a bud instead of three and a bud will entail a loss of crop of approximately 20 per cent. The first essential for the making of good tea is fine plucking.

It is, however, of almost equal importance that the fine leaf shall receive proper treatment in the factory and I wish in this connection to call your attention particularly to the withering process. Lately this, I am glad to say, is receiving more attention than it used to have but in my opinion it cannot receive too much attention and I think that there is still considerable room for improvement generally. At the moment I wish to consider this process only in its simplest form and that is the drying of the leaf to a certain definite extent. The fresh leaf must lose water and the manner in which the water is lost is of great importance. If the leaf is withered quickly the requisite amount of water as determined by weighment may be lost, for instance 100 lbs. of fresh leaves may be dried to 65 lbs. But if a close examination of the shoots is made it will be noticed that the water has not been lost evenly throughout the shoot but that the leaves have lost more water than the stalk and bud. This constitutes an uneven wither and is to be avoided. The water is lost by evaporation mainly through the leaves and the water in the stalk and bud has to find its way to the leaves in order to be evaporated. The rate at which the shoot can be evenly withered is then a rate corresponding to the rate at which the water can travel from the stalk and bud to the leaves. This rate is slow and so far as our present knowledge goes it cannot be materially hastened. It is thus necessary that withering shall be slow. We have suggested that 18 hours shall be regarded as the minimum time for withering. More rapid withering means uneven withering. We have suggested that the aim of withering shall be to lose weight so that 100 lbs. of fresh leaf shall at the end of wither weigh 65 lbs., but this must be accompanied by evenness of wither. A simple but helpful test to indicate the evenness of wither is to bend the stalk at the lowest leaf on the shoot. It should be possible to fold the stalk tight together without it cracking at the point where it is bent. This test in conjunction with the determined loss of water by weighment ensures a full and even wither. If properly carried out the whole shoot will be soft and green.

Sometimes it will be noticed that in obtaining a full wither the leaves as differentiated from the stalks and buds have become dried to a condition of crispness or else have discoloured often blackened. This indicates that the wither has been too quick and is uneven, although the loss of water as indicated by weighment may be correct. In such a case it is necessary to slow up the rate of wither and not to extend the time of the wither beyond the 18 hours minimum or 22 hours average. Too rapid withering can be observed now and is perhaps particularly noticeable on the gardens where wire withering racks are used.

I would in this connection point out that in Ceylon wire racks are practically not now to be seen. All racks are made of hessian cloth. I have been told more than once that fine plucked leaf does not make as good tea as coarser leaf. The explanation of this must be sought apart from the actual composition of the plucked shoot, for the analysis of the plucked shoot very definitely indicates the superior quality of the fine plucked. I think that in some cases the explanation can be found in the use of wire withering racks. The full wither is necessary particularly so these days because with the increased wither a thicker liquor tea is obtained. A 'kutcha' wither gives thinner liquor. I know full well that at times it is extremely difficult and in some districts even impossible to always obtain the requisite degree of wither. Ceylon has recognized this and has installed controlled withering lofts. In my recent visit to that country I had the opportunity of meeting several of the leading planters and one and all appeared to be convinced of the advantages of controlled withering. In some districts in North-East India the necessity for controlled withering is not so great as in Ceylon since if outside withering space is provided in adequate amount a natural wither can be obtained but this is not always so and some degree of control seems to be necessary.

There are at present several methods for controlled wither but in all cases the underlying principle is the same, that is the slow and even loss of water from the plucked shoot. Which method may be practically the best depends on its mechanical efficiency, its ease of control and its simplicity in working.

Whilst dealing with this all-important question of withering I should like to mention that the actual temperature is of importance. Withering should be conducted at a low temperature and in the plains I think it is probably safe to say at the lowest temperature obtainable. In the withering houses it is always to be found that certain places give cooler withering than others as for instance the lower floors than the higher ones. Full use should be made of this and the cooler withering areas should be those first utilized. I have called particular attention to the withering process in its connection with production of good tea. It is scarcely necessary I think for me to point out that fuller withering also means economy of working. If the water in the shoot is evaporated during withering, it means that so much less water goes into the factory to be evaporated in the drying machinery. For instance taking the average shoot to contain 77 per cent of water, if 100 lbs. of this leaf is withered until it weighs 70 lbs., there will then remain 47 lbs. of water, 46 lbs. of which must be evaporated by the drying machinery. Whereas if the withering is carried further so that 100 lbs. of fresh leaf has dried to 60 lbs., then there will remain in the leaf 37 lbs. of water of which 36 lbs. must be evaporated by the drying machinery, and the coal consumed will be proportional. The more 'kutcha' leaf will require approximately 1/3 more coal in a machine properly heat-insulated.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTICES
BENEVOLENT FUND SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1930-1931

Associations	No. of Planters subscribed	No. of Estates subscribed	Donations Associations Firms, etc.	Total		
				Rs	A	P
Anamalais ...	84	8	...	1,550	0	0
C. Travancore ...	43	2	A. 1	545	0	0
Coorg ...	25	12	A. 1 } D. 5 }	1,020	0	0
Kanan Devans ...	58	2	...	815	0	0
Mundakayam ...	11	5	...	245	4	0
Mysore ,	17	6	D. 1 } A. 1 }	580	0	0
Nelliampathies ...	7	...	...	70	0	0
Nilgiris ...	14	1	A. 1 } D. 7 }	450	0	0
Nilgiri-Wynaad	15	10	A. 1	500	0	0
Shevaroys ...	5	...	...	50	0	0
S. Travancore ...	19	15	D. 1	705	0	0
West Coast ...	10	5	A. 1	395	0	0
Wynaad ...	38	17	D. 1	950	0	0
U.P.A.S.I. ...	9	...	...	130	0	0
Firms ...	...	...	A. 6 D. 15 F. 13	450	0	0
Total .	355	83		8,455	4	0*

* The amount collected this year is some Rs. 500 less than last year. There is also a falling off in the number of personal subscribers. The letter 'D' denotes donations received from individuals.

E. L. HILL,
Asst. Secretary.

April 20, 1931.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Director of the Labour Department announces that his Office in Ootacamund will be closed on May 15, 1931, and re-opened in Madras on June 1, 1931.

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'CHRONICLE' BOUND VOLUME—1930

The Bound Volume of *The Planters' Chronicle*, 1930, will shortly be ready, and all those desirous of purchasing this useful book of reference should place their orders immediately with the Editor of this Paper. The price of the Volume is Rs. 5 for members and Rs. 10 for non-members of the Association. Postage will be an extra charge.

* * *

ASSESSMENT—CHARGE FOR WATER—THE NILGIRI-WYNAAD AND WYNAAD DISTRICTS

The long-outstanding and much-debated question *re* payment of the above has at last been settled by the issuing of a Government Order to the effect that 'no charge should be levied for the use of water taken from streams in the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads which, at the resettlement, were not separately demarcated or registered as Government poramboke but were included in the adjoining holdings and assessed accordingly.'

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

April 1st, 1930 to March 31st, 1931

INCOME	Amount			EXPENDITURE			Amount		
	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
To Subscriptions received from—									
Anamalais	1,550	0	0	By Assistance granted—			RS	A	P
Central Travancore	545	0	0	Case No. 1. Widow	900	0	0		
Coorg	1,020	0	0	2. Do.	600	0	0		
Kannan Devans	815	0	0	3. Child	600	0	0		
Mundakayam	245	4	0	4. Education : 2 boys and 2 girls	2,211	0	0		
Mysore	580	0	0	5. Invalid Planter	1,226	9	8		
Nelliampathies	70	0	0	6. Do.	606	14	4		
Nilgiris	450	0	0	7. Education : 1 girl	144	0	0		
Nilgiri-Wynaad	500	0	0	8. Planter	600	0	0		
Shevaroy	50	0	0	9. Education : 1 boy and 2 girls	1,719	9	0		
South Travancore	705	0	0	10. Passages of Plan- ter and wife	2,336	3	8		
West Coast	395	0	0	11. Wife of a Planter	150	0	0		
Wynaad	950	0	0	12. Passage for a Planters' wife and child	1,157	10	0		
Firms	450	0	0	13. Loans to Plan- ters	800	0	0		
U.P.A.S.I. Staff	130	0	0	Total	13,051	14	8		
To Interest received and accrued	5,080	14	4	By Expenses—					
To Profit transferred from U.B.A.	1,330	11	0	Postage and Telegrams	41	2	6		
Total ...	14,866	13	4	Bank charges	4	0	0	45	2
				By Excess of Income over Ex- penditure .....	...	...	...	1,769	12
				Total .....	...	...	...	14,866	13
									4

April 20, 1931

E. HILL,
Asst. Secy.

DISTRICT NOTES

ANAMALLAIS

Minutes of An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association

held at the Anamallai Club on Wednesday, April 1, 1931.

Present :

Messrs. E. Johnson (*Chairman*), J. H. Ireland Jones, A. W. F. Mills, A. C. Cotton, W. H. Martin, A. V. Danagher, E. Hardy, F. L. Schwind, F. J. B. Diaper, B. D. Darkin, A. Foote, G. M. Oakes, P. E. Achard, H. Gerry, E. E. Ranicar, C. F. Clark, F. R. Imray, J. Hatton Robinson, J. L. H. Williams, J. E. Sampson, E. V. Hammond, C. L. Napier, H. de. V. Gosselin, C. W. Mayow, O. M. Hetherington, and G. B. Reade (*Honorary Secretary*).

The Notice calling the meeting was taken as read.

Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held on February 25, 1931.

Proposed from the Chair that the minutes of this meeting be confirmed with the exception of Mr. House's resolution relating to 'Cumblies and Way Expenses', and Mr. Mills' amendment to the High Range Commission Rule, which were out of order—*vide* Rule 15 of the Anamallai Planters' Association.

Carried unanimously.

Minutes of the General Committee Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held on March 11, 1931.

Proposed from the Chair that these minutes be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Alteration of Articles of Association Nos. 4 (a), 9, 10 and 11 of the Anamallai Planters' Association.

The Honorary Secretary read out the revised wording of these Articles.

Proposed by Mr. J. E. Sampson and seconded by Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones that the alteration be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

Budget of the Anamallai Planters' Association for the season 1931-32.

This was unanimously passed by the meeting at the rate of one anna per acre.

Game Association.—The following letters were read and recorded :—

(1) Letter No. 1421 of February 12, 1931, from the Honorary Secretary to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras Presidency.

(2) Letter No. 60003/29-D1 of March 27, 1931, from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras Presidency, to the Honorary Secretary.

(3) Letter No. 1491 of March 4, 1931, from the Honorary Secretary to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras Presidency.

Proposed from the Chair that a Committee consisting of Messrs. A. C. Cotton, E. N. House, F. L. Schwind, P. E. Achard and J. L. H. Williams be elected to go into this matter. The Committee to appoint their own Secretary.

Carried unanimously.

Cemetery.—Mr. W. H. Martin proposed and Mr. A. C. Cotton, seconded :—

'This Association accepts the conditions of alienation of the Cemetery as laid down by Government.'

Carried unanimously.

U.P.A.S.I. Budget.—It was decided to leave the instructions of Delegates attending this meeting to the Committee.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate the Budget to the Committee.

U.P.A.S.I. Scientific Station.—Mr. A. C. Cotton proposed and Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones seconded :—

'That if the proposals for affiliating the U.P.A.S.I. Tea Scientific Station with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute involves an increase in Tea Scientific Cess, the question should be referred to Estate proprietors before a decision is made.'

Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Liquor Licenses.—Read letter No. 3119/1931, dated March 16, 1931, from the Collector. It was decided that the Committee might deal with this matter.

Re-Imposition of the Import Duty on Foreign Tea.—The following letter from Mr. G. A. LeMesurier was read to the meeting:—

ANAI MUDI ESTATE,
MUDIS P.O.
April 1, 1931.

THE CHAIRMAN,

ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

DEAR SIR,

I have recently read a copy of the memorial presented to the Rt. Honourable Philip Snowdon by the Tea Association in London.

It has struck me that what is obviously needed to strengthen the appeal for the re-imposition of an import duty on foreign teas, is support in Parliament.

There are many thousands of British Planters in India and Ceylon to whom this question is of the most vital importance.

There are something over 600 members of Parliament—each individual Member of Parliament should be reached, and my suggestion is that every British Planter be appealed to write direct to his Member of Parliament at Home, or to some voter he knows personally presenting clearly the difficulties with which we are faced, and appealing for support. I have personally already taken action and written to Sir Clive Morrison Bell, the Member of Parliament for Honiton stating our case as clearly as possible. I should like to see the Anamallai Planters' Association open up a campaign on these lines, and if the whole planting fraternity could be induced to take similar action, I feel that practically everyone of the 600 odd Members of Parliament would be reached, and our hand strengthened.

It seems to me that it is not only our duty to protect our shareholders but also the interest of ourselves, our Indian staff, and our labourers, and concerted action such as I suggest, will undoubtedly bring the plight of the tea industry very forcibly to the notice of all Members of the British Parliament.

I should be obliged to you if you would place this letter before this afternoon's meeting.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) G. A. LEMESURIER.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

G. B. READE,
Honorary Secretary.

E. JOHNSON,
Chairman.

WEST COAST

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the West Coast Planters' Associations held in the Mooply Club on Saturday, April 4, 1931, at 2 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. J. T. Murray (*Chairman*), H. J. Walmesley, P. Green, R. Lescher, M. S. Calderwood, J. G. Mitchell, J. Wilson, C. Barton Wright, E. J. Thom, W. F. Campbell (*Honorary Secretary*).

1. The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the Meeting.

2. *Minutes of last Meeting* were taken as read.

3. *U.P.A.S.I. Budget.*—This was fully discussed and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to obtain details of expenditure under Labour Department, Item Director's Office and Reserve for Emergencies.

Proposed from the Chair and carried unanimously that in view of the general depression in all products and the large accumulated funds, this Association does not favour the suggestion of the Executive Committee of a loan to Rubber of 0-2-9 per acre but would strongly support a reduction of subscription on all products of annas 3 per acre to be taken from reserves.

This Association objects to the action of the Executive Committee in raising the Budget of the Mycological Station from 0-3-0 to 0-3-3 in view of the decision of the Meeting of Rubber Interests in Cochin that the maximum it would be possible to find was three annas per acre.

Proposed from the Chair that Mr. Walmesley represent the Association at the U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Meeting to be held at Coonoor on April 20.

Carried unanimously.

At the request of Mr. Lescher, the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the U.P.A.S.I. and suggest that in future each District Planters' Association be supplied with one dozen copies of the Budget.

After a long discussion, it was unanimously agreed to accept the Executive Committee's suggestion of a pension of Rs. 500 per mensem to Mr. Waddington, but feel it would be more satisfactory to offer a lump sum out of Reserves, the amount to be settled in General Committee Meeting.

Limitation of Advances.—Proposed by Mr. Walmesley and seconded by Mr. Lescher, that this Association is prepared to limit Superintendents' Advances to Labour, provided other Associations will make corresponding limitations.

Carried unanimously.

Resignations.—It was noted with regret that all Estates in the Association had tendered their provisional resignations and the Delegate to the U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Meeting was instructed to enquire into the position of the Association.

Correspondence.—Read letter from the U.P.A.S.I. regarding Tung Oil and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write and ask for 12 lbs. of seed.

Other correspondence was laid on the table.

Roads and Communications.—The Meeting was of opinion that in future, the appointment of Planting Members to District Road Boards in this Association's area should be referred to the Association.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Moopy Valley Club for the use of the room, the Meeting terminated.

J. T. MURRAY,
Chairman.

W. F. CAMPBELL,
Honorary Secretary.

MUNDAKAYAM

Minutes of the fourth quarterly General Meeting of the Mundakayam Planters' Association held, in the Mundakayam Club on Saturday, March 14, 1931,
at 2-30 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. O. J. Egan-Wyer (*Chairman*), H. B. Macpherson, J. L. Hall, C. D. Henderson, H. R. Bowling, C. L. McLean, R. M. Saywell, A. J. Fray, and R. A. McKay (*Honorary Secretary*).

Notice calling the meeting.—The Notice calling the meeting having been read, the Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting and of the last General Meeting be confirmed.

Carried

Cochin Meeting of Rubber Interests.—Mr. C. L. McLean, as first Delegate from the Association, gave an interesting account of the proceedings of the Cochin Meeting, and in reading the Minutes, explained in detail the various resolutions and suggestions that were then put forward.

There was considerable discussion on the proposals made for effecting economies, and the Meeting expressed the opinion that the Cochin Meeting had been very satisfactory, and that the outcome ought to be good.

It was proposed from the Chair 'That this Association support the recommendations passed at the General Meeting of Rubber Interests held in Cochin on February 7, 1931.'

Carried.

Delegates' Expenses to Cochin Meeting.—It was proposed from the Chair that the Delegates' expenses to the Cochin Meeting be paid by the Association, and that the thanks of the Association to the Delegates for their services be recorded.

Carried.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of February 13.—Were read by the Honorary Secretary, and the proposal made that rubber should be lent the sum of 2 annas 9 pies per acre was the subject of criticism and discussion.

The Meeting considered that the sum should be drawn from the Reserves, and not paid out as a loan. Estates could not agree to a loan without consulting their Proprietors.

R.A.C. Member's Report.—The District Member being unable to attend, his Report was read out. The Report was considered very satisfactory, and the Meeting recorded their appreciation of the efforts made by the R.A.C. in reducing the Station Budget and in the matter of acquiring additional land for the Station.

Election of Delegate to the General Committee Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I.—Proposed by Mr. McLean and seconded by Macpherson, that Mr. R. M. Saywell be elected as Delegate.

Carried.

Instructions to Delegate.—As the U.P.A.S.I. Draft Budget had not been received in time for the Meeting to consider it, it was resolved that the question of Instructions to the Delegate be held over to be settled at a Meeting at a later date.

Electoral Roll and Nomination of Member for Legislative Council.—The Honorary Secretary acquainted the Meeting with the proceedings in connection with the Electoral Roll, and it was proposed from the Chair:

'That this Association approach Mr. Lampard asking him to be good enough to stand for re-election as Member on the Travancore Legislative Council.'

Carried unanimously.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to record the Association's appreciation of the very useful services rendered by Mr. Lampard, who gave much of his valuable time to the work in connection with the Council; and was further instructed to pay the required nomination deposit of Rs. 250 which would later be recovered from the Government.

Cooly Chatram Land.—It was resolved that the Honorary Secretary should communicate with the Land Revenue Commissioner asking him to demarcate the limits of the land round the Cooly Chatram which were registered in the name of the Chatram, as cultivators were opening up land in the close vicinity of the building.

Correspondence.—Correspondence on various matters having been read and considered, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

O. J. EGAN-WYER,
Chairman.

R. A. McKAY,
Honorary Secretary.

WYNAAD

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Wynnaad Planters' Association held at Meppadi Club on April 8, 1931 at 2-30 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. Jodrell (*Chairman*), Eyre, Behr, Hay, Boulbee, Farmer, Peacheay, Ryan, Leslie, Swayne, Lake, Bate, Rattray, Howlett, Hutton, Cowdrey and Naylor (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor :

Mr. A. S. Lampard.

1. The Notice calling the meeting was read.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting held on March 4, 1931, were taken as read and confirmed.
3. Election of delegate to U.P.A.S.I. General Committee meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting on April 20, 1931, at Coonoor.

It was proposed by Mr. Behr and seconded by Mr. Eyre that Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell be our delegate.

Carried unanimously.

4. Instructions to delegate.

U.P.A.S.I. Budget for 1931-32 was discussed. Our delegate was instructed that any economies that could be made in the budget should be pressed for, in consultation with other delegates to the Meetings, especially in connection with the U.P.A.S.I. Tea Scientific Department's affiliation with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute and the proposed pension to Mr. Waddington when he retires from the Secretaryship of the U.P.A.S.I. The budget was passed subject to discretionary action by our delegate on the above lines.

- S. Affiliation of the U.P.A.S.I. Tea Scientific Station with the Ceylon Research Institute.

This subject was discussed and the Association was in favour of affiliation but wish for more information regarding expenditure both Revenue and Capital.

6. Meppadi Toll-gate. This subject was discussed and correspondence on the matter read and recorded.

7. Other competent Business.

Recorded letter from P. S. Raghunatha Rao.

Alteration of W. P. A. Labour Rules. The alterations suggested by the Committee were put before the meeting and the reasons for same explained.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Eyre and seconded by Mr. Leslie, 'That the proposed alterations in the rules be confirmed and put into force at once and that a new booklet of rules embodying these alterations be printed and issued to members' was carried unanimously.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

P. A. NAYLOR,
Honorary Secretary.

R. N. W. JODRELL,
Chairman.

-: o :

CORRESPONDENCE

Coolies' Wages

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Is it not time that Tea Planters considered in practical fashion the question of revising existing rates of coolies' wages? Anyone who has moved lately among Tea Planters will know that there is considerable discussion privately among them on this subject and perhaps some Meetings of 'Committees' etc. but so far, it has not passed the Hot Air Stage!

Where Estates have not shut down altogether, Rubber coolies' wages have been reduced, while Coffee in Mysore and Coorg, owned almost entirely by private men of small means who have to exist on such profits as may be extracted from the Coffee bush, and not on a monthly wage, are said to have followed suit.

Reckoning the period of work at 10 months with an average of 22 days a month, the daily cost of a man to a Tea Estate is as follows:—

Daily Wage (7 annas)	...	...	...	43·750 cents.
Maistries' commission at 15 per cent	...	...	...	6·563 "
Free cumbly. Rs. 3 on 220 days work	...	...	...	1·366 "
Way Expenses at Rs. 3	...	...	...	1·366 "
Outturn Bonus—3 annas a week. Earned on 20 weeks out of the 40, i.e. Rs. 3-12-0 on 220 days work	...	...	...	1·704 "
Feeding Children. Average of Rs. 2-8-0 a man on 220 days work	...	...	...	1·136 "
			Total	55·885 cents.

It is impossible to be more exact—conditions vary from District to District and even from Estate to Estate. The above figures are moderate. It will be noted that the cost to the Estate of a cooly is, in fact, no less than nine annas, the last two being in the form of pernicious 'extras.'

My point is that we should take an anna off these extras, the Cooly being well able to afford it, leaving the daily wage as it stands.

Maistries' commissions.—These can be reduced to a maximum of 10 per cent. This rate sufficed when Maistries had not the help of the Labour Department (and it is of very considerable help in recruiting Tea Labour) so it should be ample now. With the increase in wages from time to time, the Maistries' remuneration has increased in proportion which is fair enough—there was never any reason to increase it out of proportion! Even now many places pay but 10 per cent with success—it is the Tea Man who is the culprit.

Cumblies.—Here again it was the Tea Man who began the practice of supplying a free cumbly at the end of ten months work. Let the cooly pay for it himself as he still does on Coffee, and save $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents a day. He will still work for you and be well off!

Way Expenses.—The majority of Tea places cannot afford this either, the Wynnaad for instance, with its seven-penny B.O.P! The cooly in view of his vastly greater earnings as compared to ten or fifteen years ago and cheap travel in the shape of motor buses can afford it. Anyhow, it is much better to reduce this than his daily wage!

Outturn Bonus.—This is not given by any means everywhere, but is given on many Tea places. In some instances it was begun in lieu of Loss on Rice, the cooly purchasing his own instead of the Estate running a Rice Store at a heavy loss.

It is high time Loss on Rice, in whatever guise, be cut right out. Tea cannot afford it.

The probabilities are that it amounts to more than the estimated sum.

Feeding Children.—Help parents with more than one child if you like, but, to feed the lot is bad in principle. 'Doles' do nobody any good and the cooly-man is neither beggar nor pauper, nor should we, by good but mistaken intentions, train him to be the former. There are things to be said for it, but rather than reduce the father's daily wages, stop this Feeding Children by the Estate and allow the Father an extra rice allowance each week, for each child, should he want it—by no means always the case if he has to pay for it.

Deducting 7 annas wage, plus 10 per cent Maistry's commission from the above total of nearly 56 cents, we are left with closed upon 8 cents in the shape of 'concessions'.

Except for High-Growns, the average Tea concern in South India is selling probably at round about cost of production—the fortunate few at a small profit, the unfortunate majority at a heavy loss!!

That the time has now come for some reduction of the Tea Cooly's terms and that this can best be done by taking 6 cents worth of 'concessions', rather than an anna from the Cooly's daily wage is the view of,

Yours, etc.

April 20, 1931.

'PLANTER-SHAREHOLDER'.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Mar. 26, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 26, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 26, 1930
(A) TEA (<i>Weeks ending Thursday, March 26 and Tuesday March 31, 1931, respectively</i>)			s. d.	N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —				S. India.	0 10·74	1 0·03	1 2·55
Gajam Mudi	126	1 5½ (26)		Ceylon...	a 1 0·72	b 1 0·77	c 1 2·48
Thoni Mudi	201	1 4 (26)		Java ...	1 5·06	1 4·00	1 6·48
Mukkottu Mudi	166	1 4 (31)		Sumatra.	0 8·06	0 9·32	0 10·93
Nalla Mudi	132	1 4 (26)		Nyassaland.	0 6·62	0 8·54	0 9·05
Anai Mudi	121	1 3 (26)		Total...	d 0 11·73	e 1 0·54	f 1 2·91
Sholayar	102	1 2 (26)					
Stanmore	157	1 1½ (26)					
High Forest	79	1 1 (31)					
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i> —				District	Week ending March 31, 1931	January 1 to March 31, 1931	January 1 to March 31, 1930
Fairfield	42	1 6½ (31)		N. India	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bon Ami	118	1 3½ (26)		S. India	0 11·04	0 11·99	1 2·61
Pambanar	74	1 3½ (31)		Ceylon ...	g 1 1·03	h 1 0·79	i 1 2·68
Twyford and Ashley Estates :—				Java ...	1 5·18	1 4·09	1 6·75
Vembanaad	163	1 2½ (26)		No sale			
Tunga Mullay	80	1 2½ (26)		Sumatra	Ditto	0 8·51	0 9·63
Arnakal	68	1 2½ (31)		Nyassaland.	0 6·38	0 9·32	0 10·97
Pattumalay	157	1 1½ (26)		Total ...	j 1 1·84	k 1 0·60	l 1 3·02
Carady Goody	100	1 1½ (26)					
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —							
Periavurrai	183	1 8½ (31)					
Lockhart	133	1 7 (26)					
do.	65	1 7 (31)					
Upp. Surianalle	114	1 5½ (26)					
Gundumallay	115	1 5½ (31)					
do.	72	1 4½ (26)					
Upp. Surianalle	143	1 4½ (31)					
Surianalle	64	1 4½ (31)					
Yellapatty	126	1 4½ (31)					
Surianalle	76	1 4 (26)					
(d) <i>Nilgiris</i> —							
Parkside	78	1 9½ (26)		a 7,762	b 70,430	c 92,189	
Brooklands	122	1 8½ (26)		d 97,131	e 1,096,030	f 1,068,970	
do.	88	1 8 (31)		g 5,964	h 76,394	i 96,678	
*Nonsuch	101	1 7½ (31)		j 56,237	k 1,152,267	l 1,151,301	
do.	108	1 6½ (26)					
Ibex Lodge	133	1 5½ (26)					
do.	107	1 5½ (31)					
Mailoor	30	1 5½ (26)					
(e) <i>Nilgiri-Wynaad</i> —							
Seaforth	93	1 1½ (31)					
do.	170	1 1 (26)					
(f) <i>South Travancore</i> —							
Isfield	64	1 0 (31)					
(g) <i>Wynaad</i> —							
Pootoomulla	87	1 1½ (26)					
do.	77	1 1½ (31)					
Tanga Mulla	48	1 1½ (31)					
Perengoda	58	1 0½ (31)					
Tanga Mulla	90	1 0½ (26)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

*a 7,762 b 70,430 c 92,189
d 97,131 e 1,096,030 f 1,068,970
g 5,964 h 76,394 i 96,678
j 56,237 k 1,152,267 l 1,151,301*

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, April 21, 1931, was 2½d.

London and Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, April 18, 1931, were 134,160 tons, an increase of 2,694 tons on April 11, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market—(Continued)

(C) COFFEE.—

SPECIAL CABLE

LONDON 'A' QUALITY

APRIL 23, 1931, NO CABLE QUOTATIONS RECEIVED

London prices (Seven days ending March 25 and April 1, 1931, respectively).

District	Bags	s.	d.	Seven days ending	Grades
<i>Coorg—</i>					
Huvanakadu	92	77	5	March 25	Nos. 1, 2 and PB.
Yemmigoondi	142	87	4	April 1	Nos. 1, 2, PB and T.
AF	92	78	9	Do.	Nos. 1 and 2.
<i>Mysore—</i>					
Santawerry J.	142	133	2	March 25	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Gorrayhutti	63	131	0	Do.	Do.
Kulhutty WD.	103	129	0	April 1	Do.
Santawerry J.	127	127	0	Do.	Do.
Meppens Nugger	67	125	4	Do.	No. 1 and PB.
O.K.	87	123	10	March 25	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
D. Bababoodan	67	122	11	April 1	Do.
Santawerry	76	120	9	Do.	Do.
H.C.S.	108	120	0	Do.	Do.
H.C.S.S.	52	115	4	Do.	Do.
Olivers K.	52	114	9	March 25	Do.
Chinninhulli	103	111	9	April 1	No. 1 and PB.
Chinninhulli L.	106	96	3	March 25	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Yellikodigi	72	86	9	April 1	Do.
Alegani C.	107	85	6	Do.	Nos. 1, 2 and PB.
P. Umbidy	57	85	0	Do.	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Handi	98	78	8	Do.	Do.
Woger	75	77	1	Do.	Do.
Ellrots	98	72	3	March 25	Do.
<i>Nilgiri-Wynaad—</i>					
Guynd	137	105	5	March 25	Extra Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Glenvans optional...	128	105	4	April 1	Do.
Kelly WPC.	109	101	7	March 25	Do.
Lauristan	55	97	3	Do.	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Barham	67	89	2	Do.	Do.
<i>Nelliampathies—</i>					
Palagapandy	62	75	1	March 25	Nos. 1, 2, 3, PB and T.
Seetagundy	166	74	3	April 1	Do.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, April 23, 1931

Planting.—Conditions appear to have gone even worse during the past week, *Raw Rubber* having touched 2s. *id.* *Tea shares* have been slightly better without business, however, resulting, and sellers continue to appear. *Peermades* are slightly firmer.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		L	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 3 9	—
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 10 7½	- 1s. 10½d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 9 7½	- 7½d.
4. Merlinmau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 6	—
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	—
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 10½	—
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	—
8. Kani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 3 0	- 1s. 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 14 6	- 4s.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 14 9	- 3d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	...	10
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalases Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	30
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	8
" per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	4
" per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	16
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	...	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	21
Pernasholas Rs. 10	...	1½
Periyars Rs. 10	...	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	...	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	90	90
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	...	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

South Indian Teas in Auction of March 31, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Sothuparai	19,546	1·14
Kanniamallay	20,294	98
Welbeck	6,331	87
Manalaroo	4,605	47
Karandy Valley	7,273	39

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

April 5, 1931 to April 18, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor	1·55	...	1·55
2. Kalthurity.	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri	2·51	...	2·51
3. Kallar Bdg.	1·71	...	1·71	26. Ootacamund	3·31	...	3·31
4. Koney ...	3·08	1·09	4·17	27. Yercaud	3·75	...	3·75
5. Pattanapura.	...	...	...	28. Mango Range	...	...	...
6. M'kayam ...	...	...	...	29. Devala	...	...	...
6a Peravanthan.	...	...	...	30. Devarshola	...	...	...
7. Peermade ...	...	...	...	31. CALICUR	0·60	...	0·60
8. Twyford ...	...	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi	3·46	...	3·46
9 V'periyar ...	4·79	1·99	6·78	33. Vayitri	2·98	...	2·98
10. Kalaar ...	2·86	...	2·86	34. Manantoddi	1·86	...	1·86
11. Chittuvurrai	5·55	...	5·55	35. Billigiris	2·70	...	2·70
12. Bodr'KANUR	2·03	...	2·03	36. Sidapur	2·02	...	2·02
13. COCHIN	3·26	...	3·26	37. Pollibetta	0·80	...	0·80
14. Mooply ...	1·42	...	1·42	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	2·64	1·99	4·63	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	2·18	...	2·18	40. Kadamanie	1·38	1·53	2·91
17. POLLACHIE	0·97	...	0·97	41. Ballupete	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur...	...	...	...
19. Karapara ...	...	...	...	43. Merthisubgey.	5·49	...	5·49
20. Pullengode..	...	...	...	44. Kelagur	...	...	...
21. Nilambur ...	2·74	...	2·74	45. Durgabettia.	3·21	1·27	4·48
22. Naduvattam	1·91	...	1·91	46. MANGALORE	2·40	...	2·40
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	...	...	47. MADRAS	1·51	...	1·51

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously. (i.e., from April 1, 1931).

COFFEE MARKET REPORT

During the past week offerings in auction have totalled 19,686 bags, this quantity including 8,137 bags Costa Rica, 1,450 bags East Indian, and 9,601 bags African, of which the latter comprised 6,935 bags Kenya. Tanganyikas amounted to 2,260 bags. For Costa Rica's interest in auction is still centred on the finest liquoring grades, both London and foreign cleaned. These have been absorbed principally by home trade buyers, who are prepared to pay firm rates for anything outstanding. The only weakness was for the lower quality London cleaned, which has been difficult of sale owing to the poor continental demand.

Kenyas continue to sell fairly well, although interest here is weakening, owing to the falling off in quality, which is becoming more noticeable every week. Tanganyikas were disappointing in quality, and for this reason were only in limited demand.

A feature of the market is the exceptional demand for East Indians, particularly the best marks, which are selling readily at very high rates. It is generally admitted that the crop this season, both from a quality and quantity point of view, will be one of the poorest on record. Buyers are, therefore, anxious to secure, with prices only as a secondary consideration.

The landings in London last week showed a comparative decrease of 117 tons, while the deliveries were 79 tons more than those of the previous year, and the stock, which had increased for the week 139 tons, showed a smaller relative surplus of 2,606 tons.—*The Produce Markets Review*.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 10]

May 9, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE position held by the British Empire in the world tea trade, as summarized by the Imperial Economic Committee's Report, is most impressive when one realizes that over 70 per cent of the *Tea* total tea produced is grown and nearly 70 per cent of it, consumed within the Empire.

The maintenance and improvement of the quality of Empire-grown teas is therefore of paramount importance in order that this commanding position won by Empire-grown tea may be maintained. At present the chief foreign competition comes from Java and Sumatra and is increasing yearly owing to the considerable improvements effected in factory practice there and the attention that has been paid to better plucking and better cultivation.

We have therefore not only to keep the position already attained by Empire tea but also seek other markets for the future expansion of this rapidly growing Industry, and these will not be found in the United Kingdom alone.

With regard to maintaining the quality of Empire-grown tea, close attention to methods of manufacture is necessary and furthermore close collaboration between Empire producers—especially those of India and Ceylon—in the vital work of research is essential; it is also necessary that

those responsible for the direction of research should be kept informed of the changing trend of public demand as evinced by the London tea market.

The fact that a number of British tea Plantation experts have been in touch with the Soviet to assist in extending the tea growing in that country, does not cut out Russia as a potential outlet for some of the world's excess tea stocks.

Before the revolution Russia was the second largest importer of tea in the world and a very important market for Indian and Ceylon teas, and the present situation has been brought about to a great extent owing to under-consumption in Russia. The difference between the present and pre-War import into Russia is more than 100 million lb. or nearly twice the amount of reduction sought under the restriction scheme, so that in spite of the attempts now being made to extend tea cultivation in Georgia, the estimates of whose production even in 1940, would, if realized, fail to fill the gap of 100 million lb. by which present imports fall below the pre-War figure by no less than 54,000,000 lb.

Tea producers in the Empire have secured their present position in the world market by supplying high quality on the average and it is by quality that they should gain and hold the lead in the new markets in which there is the greatest scope for stimulating demand.

STATISTICS recently issued show that steadily increasing consumption of coffee is taking place in the United States of America and in Europe, and that the steady increase throughout the past years was not checked by the world depression. The coffee crop year of 1929-30 from July 1, 1929—June 30, 1930 was a record year for consumption and reached the record high figure of 23,552,834 bags of which the United States consumed 11,165,599 bags.

THE article '*An Export Control Board for Indian Tea*' appearing on page 198 *et seq* of this issue has been sent us by a correspondent whose views are definitely of the constructive variety and who has contributed many columns to our Journal. The suggestions set out in the present article should surely encourage the movements now being made toward helping the Tea Industry in India.

Planter's views required on Tea Propaganda
Planters are notoriously shy against rushing into print, but if our readers would only discuss these matters amongst themselves, pass resolutions and draw the attention of the public and especially of shareholders to the immense opportunities of developing the tea market in India, then we are certain there would be no lack of support from such bodies as the Indian Tea Cess Propaganda Committee and the I.T.A.

WE call the attention of our readers to the notification of the Government of India dated 1st April, republished on page 220 from which it will be noted that at last Government have prohibited *Stephanoderes* the import of unroasted coffee into British India from all foreign sources.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

GROWTH OF AIR MAIL TO INDIA: 40,000 LETTERS A WEEK

Such an increasing use is being made of the Indian air mail that, according to the latest figures available, writes *The Produce Markets Review*, an average of just on 40,000 letters a week are now being air-borne from this country to India in the machines of Imperial Airways. At times of exceptional pressure—such as occur, for example, at Christmas—the loads carried by the Indian mail-planes may comprise as many as 70,000 or more letters. Business men in London find that the speed of the air mail enables them to send out urgent letters to India, and obtain replies in roughly the time taken for a letter to travel in one direction only by surface transport.

It is an interesting experience, when visiting the London air station, to walk through the big freight sheds either just before the Indian air mail departs, or immediately after the mail from India has arrived. In addition to the ever-growing mail loads, strange cargoes are often air-borne along this great Empire route in the machines of Imperial Airways. Not long ago, a regular consignment of a certain medicine, prescribed by a doctor in London for a patient in India, and needing to be taken as soon as possible after it had been prepared, went out regularly on the Saturday morning mail-plane from Croydon, reaching its destination within a week of leaving London.

On another occasion a consignment of beautiful toys, bought in London for the children of an Indian Rajah, were consigned by air, not only to save time, but to minimize any risk of their being damaged. The airway, owing to the individual care with which everything is handled, proves an ideal mode of transport for fragile articles, and for this reason urgently-required electrical apparatus of many kinds finds its way into the Indian mail-planes. Special hatching eggs are also sent by air, owing to the saving in time which can be obtained. Vaccines for hospitals are consigned by aeroplanes for a similar reason. Motor-car parts, urgently required, often find their way into aeroplanes outward-bound.

The time-factor enters into the question sometimes in respect of very unusual consignments. The other day, for example, a false beard, required in haste for a theatrical performance in India, was sent down to Croydon just in time to catch the outward-bound machine.

* * *

A TOAST IN TEA.—PREMIER AT LONDON LUNCHEON

Seven hundred tea cups were raised to drink, in tea, the Health of the King at a luncheon given by the English and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society to celebrate the opening in London of a new tea warehouse which will enable the Society to cope with the output of 1,000,700 pounds per week.

The toast of the Society was proposed by the Prime Minister who recalled its humble beginning of Rochdale and said that it now occupied a unique place in the history of human democracy. The Premier pointed out that the Society's sales of tea had increased from 27 million pounds in 1913 to 81 million in 1929 and the Society now held the premier position in the Empire as growers, dealers, importers, blenders, packers and distributors.

Sir Herbert Samuel pointed out that the Society purveyed one-fifth of the tea consumed in Britain—Copyright.—*Madras Mail—Cable London, April 22.*

AN EXPORT CONTROL BOARD FOR INDIAN TEA

(From a Correspondent)

Changes and improvements are being brought about rapidly in methods of marketing throughout the world.

Most of the food-stuffs imported into Britain are being more and more rigidly controlled either through combinations formed by the producers, or by the direct intervention of the Governments of those countries whose welfare depends on finding a market for their excess production. Butter, eggs, meat from Denmark, New Zealand, Ireland and other countries are graded for export. Fruits must all reach a certain standard before exporters will undertake the responsibility of despatching them to Overseas markets. Even such commodities as coal and steel are now being tested and graded.

How short a time has passed since India established a Coal Grading Board and thus saved her coal export trade from the extinction that was threatening it because of the rubbish that was included among her export cargoes?

The Steel trade of Britain is now engaged in fixing standards and definite marks for British steel to prevent what was formerly one of the most valuable branches of our foreign trade, from being overwhelmed by enormous supplies of an inferior article.

In all the cases quoted and in numerous others, new markets have been found or old markets have been expanded by standardizing the product, by the adoption of a recognized mark and by building up a good will based on the quality of the article marketed. If this can be done with such diverse products as eggs, apples, steel and coal, is there anything to prevent similar action being taken with regard to tea?

The following paragraphs contain the outlines of a scheme for the control of export of Indian teas which, it is thought, may be capable of development in the interests of the producers of tea in India. It is now put forward in the hope that criticism and suggestions may be forthcoming which will contribute towards a solution of the difficulties which beset our industry at the present time.

Suggestions for improving the standard of Indian teas and for popularizing sound Indian teas in India.

The Indian tea industry should adopt measures to ensure, *firstly*, that the lower grade teas shall be prevented from reaching the London or other outside markets, thus enhancing the reputation of Indian teas; *secondly*, that a large supply of sound, but cheap, tea shall be available for tea propaganda purposes in India and, under suitable safeguards, for disposal to dealers and blenders in India for retail sale in this country; and, *thirdly*, that all tea exported from the country has been manufactured under favourable conditions.

To enable this to be done, the Indian Tea Association should secure powers from Government to register all exporters of tea, to levy an increased cess of all tea exported, and to grant permits for the export of a percentage, say 95 per cent. of the tea produced under stipulated conditions and in factories that agree to periodical inspection by a Medical Health

Officer. The balance, say 5 per cent, to be retained in India for propaganda purposes and for sale to new markets.

The following provisions would be necessary :—

(1) An Export Control Board would have to be established, the members of which would be nominated by the Indian Tea Association and approved by the Government of India.

(2) An Export Cess would have to be levied and the proceeds of this should be used to pay for :—

- A.—Labour Recruiting Associations.
- B.—Scientific Departments.
- C.—Tea Propaganda.
- D.—Factory Inspection by a Medical Health Officer.
- E.—The Export Control Board.

(3) Every producer would be required to estimate his crop for the coming year on the basis of the crop of the previous three years.

(4) The Indian Tea Association would be empowered to retain 5 per cent. of all estimated crops for propaganda purposes in India, and this would be classified as A., B., and C. class according to the average price realized by the producer during those three years. The qualities or grades to be retained in India would be selected by the producer and ordinarily would be dusts and souchong. This tea would be paid for according to class and at suitable rates to be fixed by the I. T. A.

(5) The I. T. A. would also be empowered to retain all teas produced in excess of estimates at prices one anna lower than the prices mentioned above and this tea would also be used for propaganda purposes in India.

(6) Export permits would not be granted unless teas had been manufactured in factories subject to periodical inspection by a Medical Officer of Health, and which had been certified by him as conforming to a suitable standard.

Let us now consider how each of these provisions would be likely to apply.

Clause 1—Appointment of Export Control Board.—The duties of this Board would be to prevent any producer or exporter from sending out more than his due proportion as fixed at the beginning of the year. If a producer wished to sell his higher grades in India to dealers for export either singly or in blends, the dealer would procure from the producer a permit for the export of that quantity on the dealer guaranteeing that nothing but tea certified for export would be blended and exported with it.

Clause 2—Export Cess.—The export cess would be fixed for five-year periods at a suitable rate per hundred pounds. The rate should be sufficient to provide income for the services mentioned under A., B., C., D., E. A rate of Rs. 1/8 per hundred pounds or three pies per pound which is equivalent to Rs. 1.9 per hundred pounds, might be adopted as a suitable rate.

Under 2-A would come the recruiting staff in Calcutta, Coimbatore and Madras and in all the Districts where labour is recruited for the Indian tea industry.

Under 2-B would come the staff at Tocklai and the Tea Scientific officers in South India,

Under 2-C would come all Tea Propaganda expenses whether inside or outside of India.

Under 2-D would be placed the Medical services throughout the Tea Districts. All District Medical Officers would be placed under the control of the I. T. A., in so far as payment of salaries, leave terms, allowances, inspection of factories are concerned—naturally the I. T. A. would delegate its powers to a local committee.

The main alteration suggested in the present medical arrangements, is that the Medical Officer of a District would be appointed on a geographical basis instead of an Agency basis, so as to save his time in travelling. He would then have time for the additional duty of inspecting every tea factory in his district periodically and certifying that the factory, and the factory water-supply, etc., were of a certain standard of cleanliness, that the factory surroundings were clean and tidy, that suitable supplies of drinking water and adequate sanitary arrangements were provided.

His duties in these respects would be somewhat comparable to those of a Medical Officer of Health in one of the Home Cities.

Under 2-E would have to be provided new office machinery to record and check all exports of tea from India, to prevent the poorer grades of tea from being exported, to arrange that waste tea would not be sold for human consumption, that no tea would be exported unless manufactured in a factory subject to periodical inspection by a Medical Officer of Health appointed by the I. T. A.

Clause 3—Estimates of Crop.—It would be the duty of the I. T. A. to obtain from each producer before the expiration of the third quarter of the year, an estimate of his crop for the coming year and to grant him a licence to export 95 per cent. of that estimated crop.

Clause 4—Tea for Propaganda purposes.—Each producer's tea would be classified as A., B., and C. class according to the average price he had realized for the previous three years and the remaining 5 per cent. of estimated crops would be earmarked by the Association for Propaganda purposes in India.

The Association would take this over and pay for it at, say, seven, six and five annas a pound at the Ports according to its class.

Clause 5—Retention of teas produced in excess of estimates for Propaganda purposes.

All excess crops over estimates would be taken over by the Association at one anna a pound less than the above-specified prices and would also be used for Propaganda purposes.

Towards the end of each year, the prices to be paid in the following year for Propaganda tea would be agreed upon and these prices would remain constant for a period of one year.

Numbered but otherwise unmarked samples from all consignments of Propaganda tea would be inspected by two independent tasters or brokers and any lots classed by them as unfit for human consumption, would be sold by the Association for Chemical purposes only.

Clause 6—Export Permits.—This would provide for the Registration of Exporters of Indian Tea and only Producers or their Agents would be registered because they have definite means of estimating the quantity

of tea they will produce, and consequently the quantity they wish to export.

Only Registered Exporters would be permitted to export Tea from India.

Blenders, Dealers and Exporters who wished to export would procure permits through the Export Board from the Producers who have sold tea to them. It would be the duty of the Export Board to prevent any dealer, blender or distributor from exporting tea that had been purchased for Propaganda purposes or tea that had been produced in any factory not certified from periodical inspection by an official Medical Health Officer as kept in suitable condition for the production of high-class tea.

Postal packets of tea might be exempted from export tax, and from export permits.

Disposal of tea retained in India

The question now arises as to how the I. T. A. would dispose of all the Propaganda Tea—I. T. A. P. tea.

This tea should be classed in two grades—dust tea and leaf tea.

These grades should be supplied at cost to all Tea Association Propaganda shops.

Sufficient tea should be supplied to every recruiting Agent to permit him to give five pounds to each recruiting *sirdar* or *kanganny* on reporting himself as having arrived to recruit new coolies.

Tea sale shops or agencies should be opened by the I. T. A. Propaganda Department, preferably in co-operation with distributors who guarantee to sell I.T.A. tea in packets clearly marked with the I.T.A.P. mark and at regulated prices.

The I.T.A. would sell for blending purposes, to distributors who guarantee to sell the tea as a pure Indian blend in India.

The I.T.A. would also sell to distributors at cost and arrange for the remission of the export cess, provided the tea is packed in small packets in India, marked *I.T.A.P. tea* and retailed in new outside markets such as Malaya, Iraq, Siam, East Coast of Africa, etc.

REPORT OF THE IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ON TEA

We take the following extracts from the above Report which has just reached India:—

THE WORK OF THE INDIAN TEA CESS COMMITTEE

122. Excellent work has already been done to promote the sale of tea in India, under the auspices of the Indian Tea Cess Committee, and the allotment for this purpose has recently been increased from £39,000 to £50,000.

The principal avenue of approach has been the railways; and with the goodwill and co-operation of the railway officials, the Tea Cess Committee now supervise arrangements for the supply of tea to the travelling public at

606 stations, and over some 27,000 miles of railway. Careful provision is made for passengers who can obtain a 10-ounce ($\frac{1}{2}$ pint) cup of tea for one anna and a 5-ounce cup for half an anna (a little more than one penny, and one half-penny respectively). In addition, over 90,000 practical demonstrations have been held—mostly at bazaars and large gatherings, but also at railway stations and on the trains themselves. The next stage will be an extension of the campaign right and left of the main railway system, with the ultimate object of getting beyond the towns into the villages.

123. It is generally agreed that the work in India has been very well done, and the result is already apparent. Exact figures for tea consumption are not available, but the official estimate of the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics is as follows :—

1919-20	...	...	30 million lbs.
1924-25	...	...	44 "
1928-29	...	...	57 "

Thus the total has nearly doubled in less than 10 years—a rate of advance greater than has been made in any of the principal markets in the period. At a conservative estimate, the figure might again be doubled, and perhaps more than doubled, within the next decade.

TEA PROPAGANDA

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle', Madras.

SIR,

There has been some interesting correspondence recently in the *Planters' Chronicle* and I notice in the issue of April 11, 1931, a letter from a correspondent signing himself B. O. P. in which reference is made to the question of a Central Tea Packing Factory.

This Packing Factory has evidently been fully discussed and the scheme put forward in the interests of the Producer. It would be very interesting to know something further about this proposed Factory and perhaps your correspondent, who seems to write with some knowledge, would enlighten those of us who would like to know something further about it.

As a matter of interest, one would expect to know that the following points have been raised and considered by the originators of the scheme :—

1. Where is the Packing Factory to be situated ; presumably the site selected would lie at some convenient place where both the Northern and Southern Producers could dispose of their tea at about equal freight cost.

2. In what way will it benefit Producers in the various Tea districts of India.

3. Considering South India possesses no real competitive channel, in what way will it benefit.

4. If a Central Packing Factory is contemplated, how is it proposed to obtain its requirements.

5. Producers will require to be assured that they are obtaining current value for any tea they may supply to such a Factory.

6. Once the present period of depression passes Growers will look for the most competitive source of sale, which is through Public Auction.

7. What view will present Indian Distributors take of such action, for it is to be presumed that the proposed Packing Factory will place its product in competition. Of recent years, a very large number of distributors

have appeared and these in turn are the producers' best friends since they provide the competition required both in selling as well as in buying.

8. Has the view that the sale of tea to the consuming public should be left entirely in the hands of distributors been considered in all its aspects.

9. Tea being an article that has to be prepared and prepared properly, it is essential that the Indian public should be inculcated with the best methods of making it.

10. Has it been considered that Blending, Packing and Distribution is a skilled and highly specialized business, and what the cost of establishing an efficient distributing organization is.

11. So far as Northern India is concerned it would appear, should such a scheme materialize, to be necessary to purchase the whole season's requirements within six months, i.e., June-December, since practically no supplies will be available during the rest of the year. This means that large stocks would have to be held and the vagaries of the Indian climate contended with.

Your correspondent states that the amount of money already spent by the Tea Cess Committee has had negligible results. The recent report on tea by the Imperial Economic Conference has something interesting to say in connection with the activities of the Indian Tea Cess Committee. I have heard it said that the consumption of tea in India during the past 10 to 15 years is estimated to have increased 300 per cent.

Yours, etc.
ENQUIRER

Note by the Editor.—In view of our Correspondent's remarks, we publish elsewhere in this number an extract from the Report of the Imperial Economic Committee. Our Correspondent raises many interesting queries in regard to the proposed scheme of a Packing Factory, for which, at the half-yearly meeting of the Indian Tea Cess Committee, held in March, an allotment of Rs. 1½ lakhs was sanctioned, chiefly to meet the loss anticipated in selling tea at approximately the same cost as it is purchased for.

SUN-SCORCH OF YOUNG BUDDED PLANTS

This trouble would appear to be sufficiently serious to merit a few words of warning to Estate Managers who have areas of recently budded rubber or who are carrying out the replanting of old areas. It has already been observed or reported from six widely separated estates in South India as well as on the Experimental Station here.

Attack is manifested by a dying of the bark on the lower six inches of the scion, and, on all cases observed in the field, only the side facing South (or South-East or South-West) has been affected. The bark dries, shrinks to a certain extent, and presents a sunk, and in many cases a cracked appearance.

There is little difficulty in demarcating the limits of the attack, and in extreme cases this has reached up to a height of two feet above the union of stock and scion, and the stock becomes affected down to ground level. On scraping, the dried bark comes away readily revealing discoloured wood, and in old cases the commencement of callousing over.

Several affected plants have been kept under conditions suitable for the production of fungal fruiting bodies, and while in all cases profuse

fungal growths have been obtained, not one of the usual root or collar diseases of rubber has been observed. From the evidence available there seems little doubt that the dying of the bark has been caused by excessive insolation.

As we are not dealing with a disease, as commonly understood, there is no 'cure,' but much, it is thought, can be done to prevent attack, and to limit the affected area on plants already attacked. On all cases observed the dead bark should be scraped away, but care should be taken to limit the scraping to the affected areas. There is no object of forcing the plants to renew bark over a larger area than necessary. Exposed wood should be tarred, and the lower three feet of the plant shaded.

An observer from another rubber-growing country is struck by the paucity or in some cases total absence of shade on South Indian clearings. There may be some reason for this which the writer has not yet discovered, but there can be little doubt that the dying back which forms the subject of the present note is entirely due to this.

It is suggested that hedges of *Tephrosia candida* or some such bush-forming leguminous plants be grown in an East and West direction across clearings at a distance of about 3 feet from the young rubber plants. Where 'Boga scale' is troublesome some other plant such as *Tephrosia vogelii* or one of the *Crotalaria*s may be grown. One plant which forms an excellent hedge, but which seems to have been neglected on estates, is *Desmodium gyroides*. This is a tallish-growing bush which stands pruning well, and while it tends to become a little woody after a few years, this need not cause undue anxiety in South India, where *Fomes lignosus* is unknown.

It is also suggested that young rubber clearings would benefit by rows of Dadap or *Gliricidia maculata* planted so as to break the force of the desiccating land winds experienced early in the year. These plants also provide abundant loppings which will all go towards enriching the soil.

There should be little difficulty in establishing from seed the *Desmodium gyroides* or other plants suggested above in South India which is notably rich in its leguminous flora. It seems unlikely that the requisite nodule-forming bacterium will be absent.

It might be mentioned that while there is no 'cure' for the 'disease' under discussion it is probable that manurial treatment in addition to shading may help in the early recovery of affected plants. Young rubber plants should be encouraged to form an extensive rooting system, and for this purpose the manure applied should contain at least as much Phosphoric acid and Potash as Nitrogen. A tea pruning mixture would suffice and this could be applied towards the end of North-east Monsoon period. This could be followed by the application of a nitrogenous manure during March or April. It is immaterial in what form Nitrogen is applied, whether as Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia or Cyanamide except that the latter must not be applied during very dry weather. Provided the last statement is taken into account the cheapest per unit of nitrogen is the best and an application of 4 oz. per affected plant in the case of both manures suggested should not strain the resources of any estate even at the present time.

Shading is however to be regarded as very important.

R. C. TAYLOR,

MUNDAKAYAM.

April 29, 1931.

Scientific Officer,

Rubber Experimental Station.

UNITED KINGDOM, THE WORLD'S TEA SHOP

Considerable interest will be manifested in the report on Tea by the Imperial Economic Committee, which has been issued this week, and in which it is stated that nearly five cups of tea a day are drunk per head of the population of the United Kingdom. It is frankly asserted that the British Empire has become the tea garden and the tea shop of the world. The annual consumption of tea in the United Kingdom now exceeds 420 million pounds. In the last 20 years the consumption of tea per head has risen from 6.48 lbs. in 1911 to 9.20 lbs. in 1929. The spread of the habit of taking an early morning cup of tea, the mid-morning cup of tea among domestic servants, shoppers and business women, the early afternoon cup of tea in offices, and an increase of tea-drinking among manual labourers are social changes of recent years to which the report attributes some of the increase. Very few tea-drinkers have any idea how many 'cups' a pound of tea will provide, but experts agree in the opinion that in domestic use, some 180-200 cups can be provided by a pound of tea.

Australia comes next to the United Kingdom with a consumption of 8.15 lbs. per annum per head of the population (as against the United Kingdom's 9.2 lbs.), New Zealand and the Irish Free State are bracketed third with 7.9 lbs., then Newfoundland 5.46 lbs., Canada 4.1 lbs., Holland 3.1 lbs., and Morocco 2.31 lbs. The U.S.A. is the largest bulk importer after the United Kingdom with 88.8 million pounds (as against the United Kingdom's 421.3 million pounds), but this only gives an American consumption per head of 0.75 lb. The United States is a land of coffee-drinkers, and with a population three times as large as that of the United Kingdom, tea consumption is less than a quarter. Russia comes next with 64.7 million pounds, including brick tea, and a per-head annual consumption of 0.60 lb. China is no longer a serious competitor in the tea market, as she now only supplies 8 per cent of the world's exports as compared with 73 per cent from India and Ceylon. But Java and Sumatra with 18.6 per cent are of growing importance. 'From the time the reference in the United Kingdom was reduced in 1924 to two-thirds of a penny,' states the Report, 'the import of teas from Java definitely increased. Further, the year 1929, in which the duty was removed altogether, witnessed an exceptionally large increase in the import of those teas—nearly 15 million pounds, an increase of practically 25 per cent.'

The need for developing new world-markets, if the tea gardens of the Empire are to continue working at full capacity, is stressed. The importance of maintaining and improving the quality of Empire-grown teas so that they may hold their own in competition, the desirability of taking steps to enable consumers to identify Empire blends, and the need for producers to study and keep in touch with changes in public taste are other points discussed in the Report. At the moment, more tea can be grown than the market can immediately absorb. The Imperial Economic Committee do not believe that the limits of consumption in the United Kingdom have yet been reached, but they do not anticipate so speedy a rate of expansion in the future as in the past. Competition from foreign sources will grow, but Empire producers have such a start in the trade that they have more to gain from a vigorous effort to extend markets. In production, manufacture, transport and distribution, tea is to an exceptional degree an Empire industry. In 1929, exports of tea from the British Empire amounted to over 633 million pounds, of this total, India provided 380 million pounds and Ceylon 251 million pounds. Three other Empire

countries, Nyasaland, South Africa and Tanganyika contributed the balance. In the same year exports from foreign countries totalled just over 267 million pounds. Java and Sumatra provided 161 million pounds, China 73 million pounds, and Japan and Formosa 32 million pounds.

The gross imports of tea into the United Kingdom have risen from 288·9 million pounds in 1899 to 559·1 million pounds, or almost double, in 1929. Of the 1929 total, Empire tea accounted for 462·6 million pounds, or 82·6 per cent of the whole. Almost up to the time of Queen Victoria, all the tea drunk in England came from China. It was in 1836 that the first sample of 1 lb. of Indian tea reached London, and in 1839 that the first Indian Tea Company was formed. By 1854, the export of Indian tea had already reached 250,000 lbs., and by 1863, it had increased tenfold. There has been a striking decline in the exports of China tea during the present century. In 1899, exports of black and green tea amounted to over 153 million pounds. In 1928, they had sunk to just over 76 million pounds, or only half those at the end of last century.—*The Produce Markets Review*.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTICES

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Director of the Labour Department announces that his Office in Ootacamund will be closed on May 15, 1931, and re-opened in Madras on June 1, 1931.

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PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA, MADRAS

HELD AT THE

Coonoor Club, Coonoor, on Monday the 20th of April, 1931, commencing at 10-30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve	... Chairman
Mr. R. Lescher	... Late Chairman
Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock	... Director, Labour Department
Mr. H. Waddington.	... Secretary

The following Associations	Represented by
Anamalais	Messrs. E. Johnson and W. H. Martin
Central Travancore	Mr. J. H. Cantlay
Coorg	Col. H. F. Murland and Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls
Kanen Devans	Mr. G. R. Strachan
Mundakayam	Mr. H. B. McPherson
Mysore	Mr. A. L. Hill
Nelliampathies	Mr. H. S. Cameron
Nilgiris	Mr. C. L. Greig
Nilgiri, Wynnaad	Messrs. G. W. Fulcher and A. R. Innes
South Travancore	Mr. A. P. D. Lodge
West Coast	Mr. H. J. Walmsley
Wynnaad	Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell

and the following visitors :—Messrs. E. W. Fowke, C. M. Seymour, and F. W. Winterbotham.

Under instructions from the Chairman, the Secretary read the Notice convening the Meeting.

Proceedings of the last Meetings

The Proceedings of the last two meetings of the General Committee held at Bangalore on the 18th and 22nd August 1930 were taken as read and confirmed.

Provident Fund Rules

The Chairman explained that in deference to the wishes expressed by the South Indian Association in London, the Executive Committee had decided to place the funds of the European and Indian Employees' Provident Funds in the hands of Trustees, which would enable the figures relating to them being taken out of the Statement of Accounts of the Association. In consultation with the solicitors of the Association, it had been decided to make the Chairman and the Secretary for the time being, the Trustees. The Executive Committee at a meeting held the day before had resolved to recommend the General Committee to accept the alteration in the Rules of the two Funds proposed by Messrs. King & Partridge.

He therefore proposed from the Chair.

That the Rules of the U.P.A.S.I. European and Indian Employees' Provident Funds be amended in both cases as follows :—

(i) By adding to Rule 3—

(5) The 'Trustees' mean the Chairman and the Secretary for the time being, of the Association.

(ii) To substitute for Rule 6 the following :—

(6) The Trustees of the Fund shall be bare or holding Trustees. The Fund shall be under the control and management of the Executive Committee and they shall invest in the names of the Trustees monies accruing to the Fund on fixed deposit with banks approved by the Executive Committee or in Post Office Certificates or in any investment authorized by law for the investment of Trust Funds.

This being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Coffee Scientific Officer

The Chairman read the following resolution passed by the Coorg Planters' Association on the 30th March :—

'That this Association asks Dr. Coleman through the Executive Committee, for the services of the Coffee Scientific Officer, to tour in Coorg at least twice within the next twelve months with a view to starting and advising on field experiments and pest and diseases.'

The expenses of the tours to be met from the large funds standing to the credit of Coffee for scientific purposes or from the interest thereon.'

Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls said that this resolution was due to dissatisfaction felt by men in Coorg at the way the work of the Coffee Scientific Officer was run. In South Coorg, there were two serious pests which they wanted Mr. Mayne to study, and considered that the cost should be met from accumulated funds. For the interest of Coffee generally, they wanted Mr. Mayne to make a three months' visit to Coorg and study their pests on the spot. A bungalow for his use would be provided.

Mr. G. R. Strachan asked whether the amount set aside for investigation of *Stephanoderes* would be drawn on.

The Secretary explained that no sum had actually been set aside for that purpose.

Mr. A. L. Hill said that he was opposed to the resolution as the position was that planters thought that the Mysore Government were to employ a complete staff at the Station and that Mr. Mayne was to be extra. He suggested that Dr. Coleman be asked to complete the staff of the Station and not put all the laboratory work on Mr. Mayne.

The Chairman stated that he understood that the Mysore Government had a complete staff and that some of it was employed at Bangalore. He would suggest that Dr. Coleman be asked to send someone to Coorg, so that, if necessary, Mr. Mayne could carry on his laboratory work. The day before, the Executive Committee had asked Mr. Nicolls to interview Dr. Coleman on this matter if the General Committee agreed.

Mr. Jodrell asked if an officer other than Mr. Mayne were sent, would the Association have to pay him.

The Chairman thought not, and suggested giving Mr. Nicolls a free hand to arrange matters with Dr. Coleman.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Coleman pointing out that a large amount of touring would interfere with Mr. Mayne's research work in the laboratory and suggesting that the matter be discussed at the time of the next annual meeting in August.

The Chairman suggested that Mr. Nicolls should interview Dr. Coleman and proposed that Rs. 1,000 extra should be provided in the Budget to meet cost of special investigations in Coorg.

Mr. Lodge asked whether this would be money received from Coffee.

The Chairman explained that it was money previously subscribed by Coffee now in the General Funds.

Mr. Martin enquired if the services of the Coffee Scientific Officer were required in the Anamalais, would the cost be met by the U.P.A.S.I.?

The Chairman suggested that hypothetical cases could be allowed to wait over.

Mr. Walmesley said that the proposal was really going against what was decided last August, and asked why sanction to incur the requisite cost should not be given without altering the Budget, as it was only a matter of Rs. 1,000.

The Chairman read the following resolution, proposed by Col. Murland and seconded by Mr. E. Johnson :—

That Mr. Nicolls be authorized to interview Dr. Leslie Coleman to see whether it would be possible to detail Mr. Mayne or some other Scientific Officer to go to South Coorg to officially study Mealy Bug and Cockchafer.

Mr. Lodge wished to move an amendment that the expenditure be borne by Coffee.

The Chairman said that it will be, automatically.

Mr. Lodge withdrew his amendment.

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting and it was carried.

BUDGET

The Chairman said that, before opening the discussion on this, he wished to make a few remarks in explanation. He thanked the members of the Executive Committee for the way they had co-operated in cutting down expenses.

As regards the Head Office, it was finally decided to ask Mr. Waddington to resign on a pension which in a full year would mean

a saving of Rs. 21,000. In the current year the saving would be about Rs. 10,000.

The South Indian Association in London had asked to be given time to consider and comment on the Budget before it was submitted to the General Committee. He read several extracts from their letter giving their views and added that a private letter had been received showing that the pension to Mr. Waddington had been approved. He then gave details of how the Head Office salaries were made up.

As regards the Political Department, arrangements had been made, under which, in future, the Association's contribution would be limited to Rs. 12,000 per annum and this was what the South Indian Association had asked should be done.

In respect to the Tea Scientific Department, the Executive Committee had framed a budget to cover the full cost of the proposed scheme of affiliation with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute, but the S.I.A. had objected to any increase in the cess over that collected last year, and that the cess should not exceed 6 annas per acre. Excluding the increase staff proposed the Department can be run, as now, and affiliation effected, on a cess of 5½ annas per acre.

In the Labour Department large savings had been made ; he explained details showing a total saving of Rs. 60,849 on a normal Budget, the total having been reduced to Rs. 2,43,000.

He stated that the expenditure was now reduced to bedrock and although there must be some loss in efficiency, the reductions were absolutely necessary. He then invited members present to discuss the Budget.

Mr. Fulcher complained that without the details, now explained by the Chairman, it had been difficult for his Association to give instructions to their delegates which could be carried out.

The Chairman quite agreed with the last speaker that, in ordinary years, the details required should be given, but the present budget had been prepared under abnormal conditions, examination of ways to reduce the expenditure had meant many alterations, in fact it was not until the day before that the budget had been finally agreed upon by the Executive Committee.

Mr Lodge asked why the Rubber Cess had been fixed at 3½ annas, when the Rubber Advisory Committee had recommended that it should be at 3 annas.

The Chairman stated that the Auditors insisted on full depreciation and therefore this item had to be increased. It was true that one of the Indian staff had been dismissed, but he was unable to say if this would effect the extra quarter anna.

Mr. Walmsley said that under the procedure agreed to at the last annual meeting, matters were to be adjusted in the last quarter of the year and it was unnecessary to alter things now. Probably not more than 3 annas would be spent.

Mr. Hill said that his Association was not satisfied with the treatment of Mr. Waddington, who was wanted now, more than ever. Mysore had an alternative scheme, they looked upon the Political Department as a luxury and considered that it should be scrapped. Mr. Waddington was invaluable both as a worker and as a peace-maker.

The Chairman said that he was second to no one in his appreciation of Mr. Waddington. It was he, however, who asked to go earlier than August and the Executive Committee had reluctantly agreed to let him go. They had no feelings of anything but regret.

Mr. Hill, continuing, said that they had tried to get information but were told that it was confidential. He suggested that if the Political Department were closed down, Mr. Waddington could be retained; the Director of the Labour Department should take over charge of a Division; if he can do the work of Secretary and Director, he certainly could do the work of Director and Superintendent of a Division, but he understood that it was proposed that he should combine the work of the Secretary, the Director of the Labour Department and the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. The Political Department was not essential and it was a debatable point as to whether a paid politician was as good as an actual Planting Member. He explained how it was possible under the scheme proposed by his Association to effect a saving of Rs. 12,000 in the Head Office Budget and a similar amount in that of the Labour Department. Mr. James's work had not been of much practical use to planters in Indian States. His Association did not consider it a sound scheme to give a pension, but if Mr. Waddington was to go, as proposed, it was in this instance only fair. He asked for a seconder to his proposals and not finding any immediate offer, appealed to those present, even if they disagreed with his views, to second the proposal in order that they might at least be discussed.

Mr. Nicolls said that, although he totally disagreed with all that Mr. Hill had said, he would act as seconder. He was convinced that in whatever District one was planting, all Governments have to follow the lines of the Government of India, and therefore the Political Department was useful to them all, and most necessary. He said that he had asked to be allowed to attend the last meeting of the Mysore Association but had received no reply.

The Chairman pointed out that planters must be prepared for the Federation of all India, including the Indian States which is bound to come.

Mr. Martin said that the Anamallai Planters' Association had instructed their delegates to oppose the Mysore resolution and support the continuation of the Political Department and the granting of a pension to Mr. Waddington, although this pension was a bad precedent. He asked how it could be secured to him. His Association proposed that Mr. Waddington be given a gratuity based on the Provident Fund having been in force since 1916.

Mr. Strachan suggested that an annuity be purchased, instead of a pension, from the Reserve Fund.

Mr. Martin asked if Mr. Waddington's present Provident Fund was to be a part of this gratuity.

Mr. Strachan said that no such suggestion had been made by his Association.

The Chairman then quoted figures as to cost of such an annuity received from three Insurance Companies and varying from Rs. 61,770 to Rs. 64,674.

Mr. Cantlay said that he was in sympathy with the idea of a pension, but would prefer to see it assured by means of an annuity.

Mr. Walmsley said that members of the Committee had also doubts on this matter of making the pension assured, but Mr. Waddington would be safeguarded by the value of the property of the U.P.A.S.I., should the Association be closed down; it was not therefore necessary to purchase an annuity.

Mr. Hill was of opinion that the cost of assuring Mr. Waddington of his pension, was an argument for his being kept on.

Mr. Lodge enquired what would be the view taken by the South Indian Association regarding this proposed annuity.

The Chairman said that they knew the S.I.A. approved the idea of a pension.

Mr. Walmsley was of opinion that, if the South Indian Association agreed to a pension, they would see that Mr. Waddington did not suffer, should the U.P.A.S.I. at any time collapse.

The Chairman then put to the Meeting,—

That this meeting is in favour of Mr. Waddington's retirement and that the Executive Committee should see that the pension is assured to him.

Carried with one dissentient

The Chairman then put that the Budget for the Head Office is agreed to.

Carried

He then asked if any member had any comment to make regarding the item 'Meetings'.

Mr. Fulcher suggested that the Annual General Meeting should be held at some other place than Bangalore. Owing to the depressed conditions of planting, it was necessary to cut down the cost to delegates attending, and he would rather not have the meeting there, if planters could not return the hospitality shown by residents at Bangalore.

The Chairman said that the matter had already been considered by the Executive Committee, but there seemed to be nowhere else so suitable for holding the meeting, and he did not wish to give up a time-honoured custom. He said he would write the President of the United Service Club and explain that all entertainments should be stopped and the meeting be made a purely business one.

Mr. Cantlay said that, when passing through, he had made enquiries at Coimbatore, and was assured that there was sufficient accommodation there.

Mr. Strachan asked where would any saving be effected even if there was accommodation.

The Chairman said there would be no saving to the Association but there would be a saving to the delegates attending.

Mr. Lodge seconded *Mr. Fulcher's* proposal.

The Chairman said that it had been intended to hold this meeting at Coimbatore, but that enquiries showed there was not sufficient accommodation for even a Committee Meeting; it seemed quite impossible therefore to hold the annual meeting there, when one considered the extra number of delegates, clerical staff, etc. it would be necessary to find accommodation for. He then put the resolution proposed by *Mr. Fulcher* and seconded by *Mr. Lodge*, reading as follows to the meeting,—

That the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. be held at any other place than Bangalore and suggest Coimbatore or Coonoor.

The resolution was lost, and the item of Meetings of the Budget was accepted.

The Chairman said that at the meeting of the Executive Committee held the day before, it had been omitted to fix the date of the Annual General Meeting, and he proposed from the Chair,—

That the Annual General Meeting of the Association be held at Bangalore on the 17th August and succeeding days.

Carried

The Chairman said that the next item of the Budget was that of Political Department. This Department had been started by the Association,

and had cost considerably more than originally intended, but extra support was now forthcoming and in future the Association's subscription will be limited to Rs. 12,000 per annum. Mr. James had proved invaluable, as is testified by Government Members of the Council and others.

Mr. Martin asked whether the new arrangement was to be permanent.

The Chairman said that it was to be so.

Mr. Cantlay asked whether it would also mean a reduction in the cost of the Provident Fund.

The Chairman said that this was a detail which still had to be arranged.

Mr. Jodrell pointed out that if any saving was made, the subscription would be adjusted in the last quarter of the year.

Mr. Hill proposed and *Mr. Nicolls* seconded the following resolution which was put to the meeting and lost:

That the present arrangement regarding the Political Department be terminated and that Mr. Waddington be asked to take on this work on a salary to be fixed by the General Committee, the said salary to show a saving on the present expenditure on the Political Department.

The budget allotment for the Political Department was agreed to.

The Chairman said the next item for consideration was the Tea Scientific Department; he explained the views expressed by the South Indian Association, that they were agreeable to affiliation with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute as long as the expenditure did not exceed an amount which could be met by a cess of six annas per acre, the same figure as last year. Cutting out the additional staff, it had been proposed to engage, but carrying through the affiliation, they could meet the expenditure on a cess of 5½ annas per acre instead of the 7 annas budgeted for.

Mr. Jodrell supported the cutting out of the expenditure on additional staff and proposed that the Budget be reframed on the basis of 6 annas per acre as a maximum.

Mr. Cantlay seconded Mr. Jodrell's proposal.

Mr. Martin spoke in support of the same.

Mr. Strachan said that whereas his Association was willing to pay at 7 annas per acre, they would agree to 6 annas, if it was the wish of the majority.

The resolution proposed by Mr. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. Cantlay, reading as follows, was put to the meeting and carried with two dissentients.

That the Tea Scientific Cess for the season 1931-32 be limited to six annas per acre in the Budget.

The Chairman said that they would accordingly amend the budget to show an expenditure of Rs. 55,000 and a cess of 6 annas per acre. The next item for consideration was the contribution to the Indian Tea Association's Scientific Department of Rs. 2,500, to which the Indian Tea Association had agreed.

Mr. Jodrell proposed that provisional notice be given the I.T.A. that this grant will be stopped.

Mr. Lodge supported.

The Chairman pointed out that such a resolution, if passed, would override the resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting, and so was not in order; he read the resolution passed by the Annual Meeting in August last, and said that this Committee should not do more than make a recommendation to the Association in General Meeting.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. Lodge was put to the meeting and carried.

It is recommended that the Indian Tea Association be given notice, immediately, of this Association's probable intention of discontinuing any subscription at the earliest possible date.

The items of the Budget relating to the Tea Scientific Department as amended were agreed.

The Chairman said the next item was that of Coffee Scientific Officer; no one having remark to make on this subject, he passed on to the Rubber Scientific Department.

Mr. Walmsley pointed out that the Rubber Industry was not asking for any assistance in this matter, the whole cost would be met by Rubber.

The Budget items for Coffee Scientific Officer and Rubber Experimental Station were agreed to.

The Chairman in introducing the next item on the Budget, the Labour Department, explained the savings which had been effected.

Mr. Lodge enquired regarding the area which had resigned the Labour Department.

The Director of the Labour Department explained that so great a proportion of the resignations received, were provisional, that he could not tell what the position was exactly, but he thought that there would not be any serious shortage in the area supporting the Department during the current year.

Mr. Fulcher asked whether, if there were many resignations, the cess for tea would have to be more than last year.

The Chairman said that the cess was very much less.

The Budget for the Labour Department was agreed to.

The Chairman said that concluded the items dealing with expenditure. He then explained the various items of income.

Mr. H. B. McPherson asked why the Balance showed a loan made to rubber instead of it being taken from the Reserve Fund.

Mr. Walmsley explained the results of a meeting of Rubber Planters, held at Cochin, when it had been agreed that rubber estates would find one anna an acre and suggested that the balance of ordinary subscription and grant to the Labour Department should be taken from the Reserves, but it was agreed that the Reserve was common to all products and they hoped, later, when conditions had improved, to be able to refund the amount by means of a special cess. Owing to the failure of the reporters engaged, this was not properly reported in the account of the meeting which had been issued, but he felt sure that *Mr. Lescher* would bear him out in the statement that this was what actually happened.

Mr. Lodge thanked *Mr. Walmsley* for giving this information which had not been fully understood hitherto.

Mr. H. B. McPherson said that at least some estates were leaving the U. P. A. S. I. for good, and asked whether District Associations which remained would be responsible for the whole amount of the loan.

The Chairman said that Rubber had preferred to draw it from the Reserve and if times improved, it was hoped that when they could, Rubber would put it back again, as if it were a loan.

Mr. Walmsley said that the word used could be either 'withdrawal' or 'loan'.

Mr. Cantlay thought that it should not be called a loan, because of the possible future aspect.

Mr. Jodrell said that if the working of the Association showed a saving this year, the amount would go to the Reserve, but the amount withdrawn by rubber should be charged to Reserve in full and savings effected in other directions should not be deducted from it.

Mr. Walmsley explained that it was because people did forget things, that he considered that a note should be made of the amount drawn from the Reserve by any product or department and it should be shown in the yearly accounts.

Proposed by Mr. Lodge and seconded by Mr. McPherson, that the wording 'Loan to rubber' be altered to read 'Special withdrawal from reserve account rubber.'

This was put to the meeting and carried.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. Martin was put to the meeting and carried :—

That the withdrawal from General Reserve which has been sanctioned for Rubber, be definitely taken from Reserve, shown as such in the Budget, and not be taken from any savings which may accrue during the current year.

The Chairman said that all items of the Budget had now been considered.

Mr. Hill asked whether the South Indian Association in London made any contribution to the Association. He understood they were people in London who wished to control the U. P. A. S. I. and asked whether they could not be persuaded to work through District Associations in accordance with the constitution of the Association.

The Chairman then put from the Chair,—

That the Budget as amended is hereby accepted.

Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Cantlay asked whether in future the Budget when issued would be accompanied with full explanations.

The Chairman agreed to this.

U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR DEPARTMENT RULES

The Director of the Labour Department read out the amendments he proposed should be made in the rules rendered necessary in consequence of the abolition of Control Committees at the time of the last Annual Meeting.

The Chairman explained that the Executive Committee considered that a Departmental representative on that Committee was no longer necessary.

Mr. Strachan said that his Association considered such representation more necessary than ever, since the abolition of Control Committees, and that the Kanen Devans wished to have a representative of the Labour Department on the Executive Committee.

Mr. Nicolls asked what were the views of the Director on the point.

The Director explained that it had been found necessary to curtail expenditure in every way possible and a saving would be effected by the abolishing of the appointment.

Mr. Jodrell proposed that,—

Consideration of the proposed amended rules be postponed until the next meeting of the General Committee.

He explained that delegates required time to compare the alterations with the old rules.

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting from the Chair and it was carried, he then proposed ;—

That the appointment of Labour Department Executive Committee member be suspended.

Mr. Fulcher proposed that this be amended by the addition of the words 'until the opinion of District Associations has been ascertained'.

The Chairman accepting the amendment, the resolution as amended was put to the meeting and carried.

PENSION TO MR. WADDINGTON

The Chairman said there was one other point he wished to bring up regarding the continuity of the pension to be granted Mr. Waddington; at present they did not know how it could be legally assured and he asked the meeting to pass the following resolution:—

That the Executive Committee be given power to do anything necessary to guarantee the continuity of the pension to Mr. Waddington.

Mr. Cantlay and others expressed agreement with the resolution, proposed from the Chair, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman in drawing attention to the fact this was the last meeting of the Committee at which Mr. Waddington would be present, paid a warm tribute to his work for the Association and expressed his appreciation and indebtedness to Mr. Waddington for all he had done, and wished him and Mrs. Waddington a safe passage home and a long and happy retirement in England.

Mr. Waddington thanked the meeting for granting him a pension and for the kind appreciation expressed by the Chairman and other members.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Mr. McPherson enquired if estates with more than one product could remain in the Association for one and not the other.

The Chairman said that the Executive Committee were going into the question, as it did not appear to be in accordance with the Articles of Association, and suggested that the matter might be brought forward at the next Annual General Meeting of the Association.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting closed.

H. WADDINGTON,
Secretary.

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UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association was held in the Coonoor Club on Monday the 20th April 1931, commencing at 11.30 a.m.

The meeting of the General Committee being still in session, the Extraordinary General Meeting was postponed until it was finished and commenced at 1.30 p.m. when there were present,—

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve	... <i>Chairman.</i>
Mr. R. Lescher	... <i>Late Chairman.</i>
Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock	... <i>Director, Lab. Dept.</i>
Mr. H. Waddington	... <i>Secretary.</i>

The following Associations

Represented by

Anamalais	... Messrs. E. Johnson and W. H. Martin.
Central Travancore	... Mr. J. H. Cantlay.
Coorg	... Col. H. F. Murland and Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls.
Kanen Devans	... Mr. G. R. Strachan.
Mundakayam	... Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
Mysore	... Mr. A. L. Hill.
Nelliampathies	... Mr. H. S. Cameron.
Nilgiris	... Mr. C. L. Greig.
Nilgiri-Wynaad	... Messrs. G. W. Fulcher and A. R. Innes.
South Travancore	... Mr. A. P. D. Lodge.
West Coast	... Mr. H. J. Walmsley.
Wynaad	... Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell.

and the following visitors:—

Messrs. E. W. Fowke, C. M. Seymour and F. W. Winterbotham.

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Under instructions from the Chairman, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

TEA SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

The following resolution was put from the Chair :—

- (i) That the Upasi Tea Scientific Department and the Tea Research Institute of Ceylon should be affiliated.
- (ii) That there should be a common Director whose salary would be borne by both parties on an ' acreage subscribing ' basis.
- (iii) That the Tea Research Institute and the Tea Scientific Department otherwise each bears the cost of its own working.
- (iv) That all Scientific data be published in the Journal of the Tea Research Institute which shall become the official journal of both parties and that the journal be supplied to all subscribers on the same terms.
- (v) That U.P.A.S.I. members have the same facilities for visiting the T.R.I. as Ceylon Planters and in the same way Ceylon Planters have all facilities at the U.P.A.S.I. Station.

After full discussion the resolution was carried *nem. con.* and with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

H. WADDINGTON,
Secretary.

DISTRICT NOTES**KANAN DEVAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION**

GRAHAMS LAND ESTATE,
MUNNAR P.O.,
April 23, 1931.

Proceedings of the Forty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the above Association held at the High Range Club, Munnar, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 1931.

Present :

Messrs. A. J. Wright (*Chairman*), J. S. B. Wallace, H. A. Ragg, R. B. Cullen, W. P. Laird, E. H. Francis, A. G. MacGregor, J. S. Hawkins, M. C. Koechlin, G. A. Holden, G. R. Strachan, A. H. Dixson, J. W. Tolson, C. P. Gouldsbury, W. I. Hatherill, H. Kirby, E. N. Pinks, B. H. Matthews, Wm. Mackenzie, R. F. Bowles, J. C. Swayne, C. K. Olney, G. L. Jack, G. D. Marr, J. A. Nicolson, J. M. Bridgeman and H. Croly Boyd (*Honorary Secretary*).

By Proxy :

Messrs. W. S. Mackay, J. Gray, H. G. Marshall, A. Yates, P. G. Campbell and C. Rowson.

Visitors :

Messrs. A. H. Mackie, G. W. Cole, R. S. Keir, S. G. Speer, W. B. Cayley, J. H. Wilkes, S. A. Nicholls, A. M. Robertson, A. E. Strachan, Beaumont and B. Hill.

At the request of the Chairman, the Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the Meeting and the following Agenda was placed on the table.

1. To confirm the minutes of the Bi-Annual General Meeting held on October 25, 1930.
2. Honorary Secretary's Report.
3. Chairman's Address.
4. Accounts.
5. Delegates' Reports :—
 - (a) Travancore Combined Planters' Association General Meeting.
 - (b) Sri Mulam Popular Assembly—27th Session.
6. Proposed alteration to Labour Rule No. 4 (1), deleting the words *The final decision resting with the Superintendent of the Estate first advancing.*
7. Election of Office Bearers for Season 1931–32.
8. Election of Auditor.
9. Any other business of which due notice has been given.

The minutes of the Bi-Annual General Meeting held on October 25, 1930, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Honorary Secretary's Report.—

'MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to place before you my report on the working of the Association for the past year.

Membership.—There are 39 members on the register representing a total of 31,981 acres made up as :—

Tea	...	...	...	30,818½ Acres.
Coffee	...	...	...	565 "
Cardamoms	...	...	...	569½ "
Cinchona	...	...	...	27½ "

This is an increase of 2,165½ acres over the previous year.

Tea Crop.—The crop for the year was 13,357,666 lbs. of made tea as against 14,251,177 lbs. for the previous year, a yield of 433 lbs. per acre. Immature area has, as usual, been included when working out this figure.

The usual Quarterly Statements have been sent to the Secretary U.P.A.S.I., Madras, and I thank members for, in most cases, furnishing the necessary figures promptly.

Meetings.—During the year there have been six Committee Meetings and one General Meeting. The attendance at recent General Meetings has not been as good as might be expected.

Delegates were present at the 36th Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I., Bangalore, at the 27th Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and at the Annual Meeting of the Travancore Combined Planters' Association.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Wright who, with the Honorary Secretary, represented the Association.

Government Medical Grant.—The Grant of Rs. 100 per mensem each in respect of the three Grant-in-aid Hospitals has been regularly paid, and our thanks are due to Her Highness' Government for this continued concession.

Lady Ampthill Nursing Institute.—A subscription of Rs. 800 has been paid by your Association. The Lady Willingdon Nursing Home which is run in conjunction with the above, has been of great benefit to members of the Association and, speaking from personal experience, I can state it is run very efficiently.

Roads and Bridges.—It is of note to record the completion of the Neriamangalam-Pullivasal Road which now provides the District with a second wheeled traffic outlet. This road brings Munnar within 83 miles of Cochin. It is a first class road and has been very well constructed.

A formal opening took place on March 25 when Her Highness the Maharani Regent of Travancore, at a ceremony held near Neriamangalam, declared the road open.

I am glad to report the Government road from Munnar to Devicolam has been completely recoated. Our thanks are due to the Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Mr. Thomas for his energy in having this work pushed through.

The Northern outlet road is in poor condition though it is being better looked after than for many years. A great deal, however, is still necessary before it becomes moderately safe for Motor Traffic. I hope your representative on the Road Board will take the matter up and endeavour to get this road widened.

South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund.—There are at present 61 members and 3 Estates subscribing to the Fund. I regret to state that a number of Assistants have not joined, though appealed to more than once. A further appeal sent to those who were already members, met with very poor response, only 7 contributing. The total amount collected including donations was Rs. 855.

Cesses.—All these have been paid during the year and I thank members for, in most cases, remitting promptly.

I would like to draw your attention to the reductions in the Labour Department Subscription for the year, bringing the rate per acre for Tea to Rs. 1-15-0, the lowest it has been since the reorganisation of the U.P.A.S.I.

Accounts.—Copies of the Revenue and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet for the year ending March 31, 1931 are on the table and the auditors' certified copy is with me now together with the Association's Books, should any one desire to examine them Revenue exceeded expenditure by Rs. 535-11-1.

War Memorial.—This has been carefully looked after during the year and our thanks are due to Mr. Cranston for his help in this matter.

Adulteration of Tea.—A public Analyst has been installed in Madras and is doing useful work in detecting sales of spurious tea. Manufacture of the latter has however fallen considerably owing to the large quantities of pure tea now available at cheap rates.

Before tendering my resignation, gentlemen, I would like to place on record my thanks to your Chairman, Mr. Wright, for all his help and guidance to me during the year. I assure you he is very much a live wire in the position and his loss to the Association will be most keenly felt.

I would also like to thank the members of my Committee for their unfailing courtesy and help at all times.'

H. CROLY BOYD.

Mr. G. R. Strachan moved the adoption of this report which was seconded by Mr. J. C. Swayne and *Carried unanimously*.

Chairman's Address.—Mr. Wright in his opening remarks, stated that the years' working of the Association had been fully dealt within the Honorary Secretary's report. He stated it was customary for the Chairman to endeavour to drop words of wisdom on the position of the Industry, etc., and he therefore proposed to limit his remarks to this subject which at present occupied every one's attention. The present tea slump was treated in many quarters as if nothing of the sort had ever happened before. He remembered three previous ones, the last being in 1920, but none which created such a state of apprehension as the present one. The reason probably being that the last ten years' prosperity had led people to think such times as normal. He could remember in 1913 that an average price of 9½ pence per lb. was something to be proud of. Though prices were down, South India showed up better than North India or Ceylon, the latter two showing a drop of 2½ pence per lb. under last year compared with 1½ pence of the former.

Owing to the usual prosperity of recent times, costs of production had soared and the Industry had become, something approaching, extravagant. He feared however that the present rage for economy might be carried too far in some directions, especially as regards U.P.A.S.I. which he knew was being made a general point of attack. He had grave fears that the constructive work of years in building up the U.P.A.S.I., would be wrecked by the present campaign. He instanced the Labour Department which had done more than any other to bring the U.P.A.S.I. into its present prominent political position and had become a good asset in its moral influence and restraint, which tended to keep exploitation of the advance system in check.

As regards the Tea Research scheme, the Association representative at the coming General Committee Meeting at Coonoor, Mr. G. R. Strachan had been given full instructions in favour of the amalgamation with Ceylon and he was sure the matter was in capable hands.

In closing, Mr. Wright stated that he was glad to be able to say that the members of his Association were in a favourable position and more capable of weathering the storm than most other Districts. He was frankly optimistic and thought that a lower range of values was probable but it would still be possible to work at a profit. (Applause).

Accounts.—The adoption of these was proposed by Mr. J. S. B. Wallace and seconded by Mr. J. M. Bridgeman.

Carried unanimously.

Delegates' Reports.—These were taken as read and their adoption proposed by Mr. E. H. Francis and seconded by Mr. Wm. Mackenzie.

Carried unanimously

Mr. G. R. Strachan proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Wright and Boyd for representing the Association.

Labour Rule No. 4 (1).—The resolution proposed by Mr. H. A. Ragg, seconded by Mr. G. R. Strachan that the amendment to Rule No. 4 (1) as contained in the agenda be accepted, was put to the Meeting and *Carried unanimously*.

U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department.—The Chairman welcomed Mr. A. H. Mackie to the Meeting and asked members if they had any questions to ask him. Some members availed themselves of the opportunity.

Election of Office-bearers—Season 1931-32.—The result of the ballot was as follows :—

Chairman	...	...	Mr. G. R. Strachan
Honorary Secretary	...	"	E. N. Pinks.
			J. W. Tolson.
			E. H. Francis.
Committee			W. Mackenzie.
			A. H. Dixson.
			H. A. Ragg.
Auditors	...	...	Messrs. G. Narasimham & Co., Madras.

Before the closing of the Meeting, the new Chairman, Mr. G. R. Strachan in a few well chosen words, bid farewell to Mr. A. J. Wright who he said had been so many years a member of the Association and was always to the fore when there was work to be done. He remarked, that as a Chairman, Mr. Wright was without equal in the High Range. On behalf of the Association he wished Mr. and Mrs. Wright health and prosperity in their well-earned retirement. (Applause).

Mr. Ragg, Managing Director of the M. S. A. Ltd., took the opportunity of presenting a silver salver to Mr. Wright as a token of thanks from the members of the M. S. A. Ltd., remarking that the prosperity of his Association was largely due to Mr. Wright's efforts.

Mr. Wallace, rising, said it was regrettable to have to bid farewell to another old member of the Association in Mr. M. C. Koechlin who had been connected with it for very many years. On behalf of those present he also wished Mr. and Mrs. Koechlin happiness in their retirement. (Applause).

There being no further business, the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Club for the use of their room;

A. I. WRIGHT,
Chairman.

H. CROLY BOYD,
Honorary Secretary.

NILGIRI-WYNAAD

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association held at 10 a.m. on the 6th of April at the Gudalur Rest-House

Present :

Messrs. C. K. Pittock (*Chairman*), R. W. Levett, G. W. Fulcher, B. Henney, J. H. Wapshare, G. F. Scovell, F. C. Scott, I. W. Finlayson, J. E. Bisset, A. L. Lang, S. S. Light, J. E. Hancock, G. Bayzand, N. Johnston, N. L. S. Wright, A. N. Scott Hart, W. Byram Page, H. F. DeCourcy, J. T. Morshead, A. H. Whittle, Capt. R. C. Horsley, and A. R. Innes (*Hon. Secretary*).

Visitors :

Messrs. J. S. Nicolls, K. B. W. Jones, J. C. Osborne and S. O. Tudor.

A letter regretting inability to attend the meeting, was received from Mr. C. O. Commin.

The Hon. Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Minutes of previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

Election of General Committee Member.—Mr. G. W. Fulcher was elected General Committee Member in place of Mr. R. Fowke resigned.

U.P.A.S.I. Budget 1931/32.—The General Committee members were given instructions for the General Committee meeting to be held at Coonoor.

Correspondence and other competent business.—Mr. Innes proposed and Mr. A. N. Scott Hart seconded, that Mr. J. C. Osborne of Daverashola Estate be elected a Personal Member. *Carried unanimously.*

Mr. A. L. Lang proposed and Mr. G. Bayzand seconded that Mr. J. Massey of the Mango Range Group be elected a Personal Member of the Association. *Carried unanimously.*

It was decided that the Annual General Meeting of the Association be held at Gudalur on April 27th.

Prior to the close of the meeting Mr. J. E. Bissett on behalf of the members present expressed what a great pleasure it was to welcome Mr. J. S. Nicolls to the District once again.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting terminated.

A. R. INNES,
Honorary Secretary.

C. R. PITTOCK,
Chairman.

-: O :-

PROHIBITION OF IMPORT OF COFFEE INTO BRITISH INDIA

ORDER No. 534—AGRICULTURE

Department of Education, Health and Lands.
New Delhi, the 1st April, 1931

Coffee plants, coffee seeds and coffee beans shall not be imported into British India except by the Director of Agriculture, Madras Presidency, who shall take all measures necessary to ensure that such coffee plants, beans or seeds as are imported by him are free from plant diseases and injurious insects. Provided that the prohibition hereinbefore contained shall not apply (i) to roasted and ground coffee, or (ii) to a consignment of unroasted or unground coffee beans or seeds produced in India and covered by a certificate of origin,

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING FEBRUARY, 1931

<i>Coffee—</i>														
Madras	...	...	...	263	...	...	5,463	...	664	...	1	...	300	10
Calicut	...	...	...	28	...	...	7,591	15,710	2,977	...	165	...	40	260
Mangalore	...	...	...	438	...	...	1,599	3,665	...	...	...	...	...	459
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,666	...	...	10	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	729	926	185,414	16,349	20,099	2,988	165	340	37	1,515	340	729	260
Previously...	...	...	...	10,264	10,949	10,106	106	37	1,515	359	359	359	359	459
Total cwt.	since 1-1-31.	255,989	...	1,635	185,414	32,298	30,363	3,094	202	1,855	1,855	1,855	1,855	1,855
<i>Rubber—</i>														
Calicut	...	...	...	...	33,715	35,464	121,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	...	...	...	131,095	512,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	...	67,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	19,071	42,044	48,169	158,172	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	52,786	33,663	614,624	324,604	792,704	69,505	...	...	...	...	22,400	...	...
Previously	...	...	...	...	...	...	780,282	...	...	...	...	44,884	...	...
Total lbs.	since 1-1-31.	2,735,452	...	86,449	939,228	1,572,986	69,505	...	...	...	...	67,284	...	...
<i>Tax—</i>														
Madras	...	...	...	5,380	13,069	1,979	9,140	...	144	...	...	...	...	...
Calicut	...	...	...	25,076	41,832	922,094	813,507	...	...	...	...	3,515	...	...
Cochin	...	...	...	17,511	495	...	...	...	848	...	...	9,059	...	100
Mangalore	...	...	...	11,960	129,917	58,934	931,286	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,102	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	60,422	748,442	184,818	2,799,902	9,140	992	...	...	...	...	12,574	100	100
Previously	...	...	...	4,235,394	36,964,639	18,522	8,498	1,610	1,610	1,610	1,610	235,693	4,022	4,022
Total lbs.	since 1-4-30.	45,284,788	...	808,864	4,420,212	39,764,561	27,662	9,490	1,610	1,610	1,610	248,267	4,122	4,122

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Mar. 26, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 26, 1931	January 1 to Mar. 26, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, March 26 and Tuesday March 31, 1931, respectively)			s. d.	N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gajam Mudi	126	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)		S. India.	0 10.74	1 0.03	1 2.55
Thoni Mudi	201	1 4 (26)		Ceylon...	a 1 0.72	b 1 0.77	c 1 2.48
Mukkottu Mudi	166	1 4 (31)		Java ...	1 5.06	1 4.00	1 6.48
Nalla Mudi	132	1 4 (26)		Sumatra.	0 7.13	0 8.51	0 9.56
Anai Mudi	121	1 3 (26)		Nyassaland.	0 6.62	0 8.54	0 9.05
Sholayar	102	1 2 (26)		Total...	d 0 11.73	e 1 0.54	f 1 2.91
Stammore	157	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
High Forest	79	1 1 (31)					
(b) Central Travancore				District	Week ending March 31, 1931	January 1 to March 31, 1931	January 1 to March 31, 1930
Fairfield	42	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)		N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bon Ami	118	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)		S. India.	0 11.04	0 11.99	1 2.61
Pambanar	74	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)		Ceylon ...	g 1 1.03	h 1 0.79	i 1 2.68
Twyford and Ashley Estates :—				Java ...	1 5.18	1 4.09	1 6.75
Vembanaad	163	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)		Sumatra	No sale	0 8.51	0 9.63
Tunga Mullay	80	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)		Nyassaland.	Ditto	0 9.32	0 10.97
Arnakal	68	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)		Total ...	0 6.38	0 8.40	0 9.08
Pattumalay	157	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
Carady Goody	100	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Periavurrai	183	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Lockhart	133	1 7 (26)					
do.	65	1 7 (31)					
Upp. Surianalle	114	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
Gundumallay	115	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
do.	72	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
Upp. Surianalle	143	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Surianalle	64	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Yellapatty	126	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Surianalle	76	1 4 (26)					
(d) Nilgiris—							
Parkside	78	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
Brooklands	122	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
do.	88	1 8 (31)					
*Nonsuch	101	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
do.	108	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
Ibex Lodge	133	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
do.	107	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Mailoor	30	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad —							
Seaforth	93	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
do.	170	1 1 (26)					
(f) South Travancore—							
Isfield	64	1 0 (31)					
(g) Wynaad—							
Pootoomulla	87	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					
do.	77	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Tanga Mulla	48	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Perengodda	58	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ (31)					
Tanga Mulla	90	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ (26)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 7,762 b 70,430 c 92,189
 d 97,131 e 1,096,030 f 1,068,970
 g 5,964 h 76,394 i 96,678
 j 56,237 k 1,152,267 l 1,151,301

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, May 5, 1931, was 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 2, 1931, were 86,512 tons, an increase of 590 tons on April 25, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 2, 1931, were 51,926 tons, a decrease of 117 tons on May 2, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold, or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

(C) COFFEE.—

Special Cable London 'A' Quality May 6, 1931, no cable quotations received

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, May 7, 1931

Planting.—There has been no change for the better either in Teas or Rubbers during the past fortnight, except in Peermades, which were firmer at Rs. 15 $\frac{1}{4}$. The market was dull and depressed.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or — on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 3 6	- 3d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 10 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 7 6	- 2s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 6	...
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	...
6. Poomudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	- 6d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 12 6	- 2s.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 13 9	- 1s.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	8	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	30
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	4	8
" per cent. Prefa. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{4}$
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	28	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	21
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Periyars Rs. 10	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	...	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	90	90
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

South Indian Teas in Auction of April 21, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates					Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai	...	...	...	...	12,820	1·03
Kanniamallay	...	..	..	...	18,355	91
Madupatty	...	...	...	...	16,497	78
Woodlands	...	...	...	...	2,500	36
Corrimony	...	...	...	...	11,288	33
Balamore	...	...	...	...	5,124	33
Kombay	...	...	...	...	2,470	33

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

April 19, 1931 to May 2, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor	...	...	1·55
2. Kalthuritty.	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri	...	...	2·51
3. Kallar Bdge.	...	1·71	1·71	26. Ootacamund	...	...	3·31
4. Koney	2·87	4·17	7·04	27. Yercaud	...	...	3·75
5. PATTANAPURA.	5·06	7·15	12·21	28. Mango Range	...	...	3·75
6. M'kayam	...	...	...	29. Devala	...	...	...
6a Peravanthan.	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	...	...	...
7. Peermade	...	...	...	31. CALICUT	...	0·07	0·60
8. Twyford	...	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi	...	1·96	7·11
9. V'periyar ...	0·38	6·78	7·16	33. Vayilti	...	1·39	2·98
10. Kalaar	...	2·86	2·86	34. Manantoddi	...	1·56	1·86
11. Chittuvurrai	2·44	5·55	7·99	35. Billigiris	...	1·18	2·70
12. BODI'KANUR	...	2·03	2·03	36. Sidapur	...	2·86	2·02
13. COCHIN	1·42	3·26	4·68	37. Pollibetta	...	4·05	0·80
14. Mooply	0·61	1·42	2·03	38. Somwarpett.	...	...	4·85
15. Pachaimalai.	...	4·63	4·63	39. Saklaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis	0·69	2·24	2·93	40. Kadamanie	...	1·15	3·16
17. POLLACHIE	...	0·97	0·97	41. Ballupete	...	...	4·31
18. Nell'pathy...	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur...	...	...	0·99
19. Karapara	...	...	...	43. Morthisubgey.	...	4·66	5·49
20. Pullengode ..	0·60	5·40	6·00	44. Kelagur	...	1·18	0·99
21. Nilambur	...	2·74	2·74	45. Durgadbettta.	...	2·06	4·48
22. Naduvattam	0·49	1·91	2·40	46. MANGALORE	...	1·60	2·40
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	...	...	47. MADRAS	...	1·51	1·51

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously. (i.e., from April 1, 1931).

Planters Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 11]

May 23, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Pest Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

TALK of a trade revival continues to trickle through from many sources, the chief of which is the daily press at home, who, as directors of public enthusiasm, magnify one drop of rain into the bursting of a *in sight?* plentiful monsoon.

Optimism and public enthusiasm are qualities to be encouraged at all times, but the present is hardly a propitious time for them to be buoyed up by false hopes that the definite turning of the depreciating values curve upwards, has been reached.

Some markets have certainly shown a firmer tone as though to prove that the lowest level in the movement which began 16 months ago, has been plumbed.

Prices generally during the past month or so have for the first time fallen below those of 1913 and we may therefore hope that we are not far off the stage preceding an upward movement, which will bring stability and confidence.

The enigma remains however that although the value of primary products have declined enormously, the retail price of manufactured articles but dimly shows it.

Whilst this continues, the demand must necessarily be curbed with the resulting consequence on production.

It is therefore for the distributive trades to find a way out because the costs of distribution so far outweigh in proportion the actual value of the elements which together comprise the manufactured article, that its retail price can show little change.

The question of distribution costs in relation to manufactured costs raises many points which require investigation with a view to revision.

AS a result of permanent agreements with Italy and Greece and the introduction of new all-metal Short flying-boats specially built for the *Air-mail Speed*. Mediterranean section of the route, Imperial Airways have up India-England arranged to speed up their England-India (and vice versa) in 6 days. Air Service.

Commencing on May 21 the westbound Aeroplane will leave Karachi every Thursday and arrive in London the following Tuesday, thus cutting the present flying time down by three days.

The present route across Central Europe will be discontinued and passengers and mail will travel instead *via* Greece, Italy and Switzerland after leaving Cairo.

—:o:—

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

A Mexican decree, effective March 10, 1931, places 'guayule and other rubber plants,' formerly subject to an export duty, on the free list.—*The India Rubber Journal*.

* * * *

AUSTRALIAN DUTY ON TENNIS BALLS

Demand for Increase

Evidence was recently heard by the Tariff Board at Melbourne in favour of increased duties on certain classes of imported rubber goods, which are also manufactured in Australia. Mr. A. E. Grant, sales manager for the Barnet Glass Rubber Co., Ltd., supported an application for increases in the duties on tennis balls. Mr. Grant said that imported materials represented 42·22 per cent. of the total cost of production in his company's factory. He considered that an increase of duty would lead to an increase in the Australian output by about 33 per cent. The cost of production would be reduced, and more employment would be given. The increases asked were for 30 per cent. British preference, 35 per cent. intermediate, and 45 per cent. general, plus a temporary surcharge of 50 per cent. to 60-70 per cent. and 75 per cent., or 1s., 1s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. a lb., whichever returned the larger sum.

—:o:—

COFFEE

Public auctions were resumed on Tuesday, April 14, when a total quantity of 20,541 bags was offered. Of this figure, Costa Rica contributed 10,884 bags, East Indian 1,017 bags, and Africans 7,376 bags, the latter consisting of 6,380 bags of Kenya.

The market for Costa Rica's opened with a more cheerful tone, and prices on the week closed at dearer rates. The general quality offered showed an improvement; particularly was this noticeable in some of the London cleaned types. Foreign cleaned were also better—a feature which is badly needed, as the greater majority already offered have been lacking in liquorizing qualities.

The demand for the small quantity of East Indians auctioned was disappointing, which, in view of the quality offered, was not to be wondered at.

During the week one or two nice parcels of Kenyas were offered, and found buyers at high prices. Subsequent sales, however, reverted to the usual style of inferior quality. Prices for these grades show no material alteration.

The landings in London last week showed a comparative decrease of 12 tons, while the deliveries were 65 tons less than those of the previous year, and the stock, which had increased for the week 624 tons, showed a smaller relative deficiency of 761 tons.

'WORK OF THE COFFEE SCIENTIFIC OFFICER'.

D. O. No. C. 3016/S.C. No. 459 OF 30/31.

The Editor, Planters' Chronicle.

SIR,

In your number for the 9th May appear the Proceedings of the General Committee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held in Coonoor on the 20th April. These Proceedings make pointed reference to the work of the Coffee Scientific Officer and to me as directing that work. The two gentlemen mainly concerned in the discussion, Mr. Nicolls and Mr. Hill, are my personal friends and the fact that even they have misunderstood the situation as I see it, makes me wonder whether coffee planters in general understand the conditions under which Mr. Mayne's work is being carried out and whether I, in turn, understand just how coffee planters in general desire the work of the Coffee Scientific Officer to be run. Mr. Nicolls stated that dissatisfaction is felt in Coorg on that score and Mr. Hill appears, from the report of the meeting, to think that Mr. Mayne is being burdened with a lot of laboratory work which somebody else should be doing and which is interfering with his legitimate duties.

As regards Mr. Nicolls' representation, the Chairman's wise suggestion which was accepted by the Committee, has led to a clearing-up of the difficulty at once. I have had a conversation with Mr. Nicolls and arrangements have been made for sending Mr. Mayne to Coorg for as long a period and for as many periods as may seem necessary to clear up the two questions of cockchafer and mealy bug as thoroughly as such questions can be cleared up without the establishment of a permanent field station in Coorg. Should field investigations show that the establishment of such a permanent field station is required, a report will be submitted to the Secretary, United Planters' Association of Southern India and the Coorg Planters' Association with an estimate of costs of an investigation extending over the period considered necessary. We are now waiting for information from the Coorg Association as to just when Mr. Mayne can pay his first visit with the best chance of seeing these pests at the most favourable time for study.

I quite appreciate the fact that the question of sending Mr. Mayne out on a tour such as that proposed, is one that must be considered by the General Committee but it comes as a bit of a shock to me to obtain the first intimation that dissatisfaction exists in Coorg in the way Mr. Mayne's work is being run, through a discussion published in your Journal. Had the Coorg Association brought this matter to my attention first, Mr. Nicolls, instead of having to register dissatisfaction with me (I imagine a rather

distasteful task to him), would have been able to put before the General Committee a definite scheme for the investigation. May I remind coffee planters that I am not gifted with second sight and that unless they keep me informed of their problems or, as in the present case, of the dissatisfaction felt as regards action taken in connection with such problems, I shall be placed in a very difficult position indeed.

If we now turn to Mr. Hill's remarks, I can hardly believe that he realized all their implications. Possibly in my sensitiveness on a point of honour I have read into them an implication which they do not contain. Surely, however, they do contain the suggestion that I am using Mr. Mayne to do hack work in the laboratory to the detriment of more important duties which he has, on that account, to neglect. Whether Mr. Hill meant this or not, I think his words, as reported, will stand that interpretation and I wish most emphatically to repudiate any such suggestion.

In keeping with the understanding arrived at in my meeting with representative coffee planters in June 1928, when the appointment of a Scientific Officer for coffee and the arrangement whereby he was to work on the station were decided, I have kept the following points in view in connection with Mr. Mayne's training and work. In the first place to fit him as fully as possible to direct the operations of a station, should the United Planters' Association of Southern India, later on, decide to establish one of their own, he should have the fullest opportunity to familiarize himself with the agricultural side of coffee planting and the methods and technique for experimental work on all sides on this crop as far as these can be learned on the station. This necessitates his taking an active part in operations of various kinds including especially the work on coffee breeding which is, at present, being very actively followed and which is a matter of fundamental importance to the future of the coffee industry.

As regards his own special work, I have not placed him to work on problems of local interest and importance but on those which, in my opinion, affect most seriously every coffee area in South India. In other words, I have tried to ensure that the results of his work will be of the greatest immediate benefit to the largest possible number of planters. In his investigations he has not been working alone. A great deal of the laboratory work has been and is being done in our laboratories in Bangalore where facilities exist which cannot be duplicated on the station without considerable extra expenditure. Even on the station itself, a laboratory assistant has been provided at the expense of the Mysore Government whose duties are, at present, practically confined to relieving Mr. Mayne of a large part of routine work in the laboratory and in the field. Moreover, on more than one occasion when Mr. Mayne has been away on tour, his observations have been kept going by one of the station staff and similar arrangements will be made, as a matter of course, when Mr. Mayne goes to Coorg. Nothing could be farther from the facts than the suggestion that Mr. Mayne's services are being used for the benefit of the Mysore Government and to the detriment of work for the coffee planters belonging to the United Planters' Association of Southern India. At a time like the present when persistent efforts are being made to unite all coffee planters for their common good, such a suggestion is particularly unfortunate.

After all, the suggestion that European coffee planters of South India have, from the scientific and even from the economic standpoint, interests different from those of other coffee planters, is, I believe, based on a

misapprehension. All work on coffee, whether it is done on the Coffee Station or in the laboratories in Bangalore, is for the benefit of the coffee industry as a whole, and all our efforts are being directed to making the results we obtain of as general application as possible. Hardly a day passes without letters coming to me from planters outside Mysore asking for advice and those letters are answered as promptly and as conscientiously as are those received from Mysore planters. Parochialism in such matters is abhorrent to me and to the staff of the Agricultural Department just as I believe it is to the majority of the readers of your Journal.

Might I point out in conclusion that the United Planters' Association of Southern India have a representative on the Advisory Committee of the Coffee Experiment Station. Although I have not had an opportunity of speaking with Mr. Young on the subjects dealt with in this letter, I feel certain that he has been as ignorant of the expressed dissatisfaction and of the implied criticisms referred to above, as I have been. I met Mr. Young on the station one week ago and the fact that he did not refer to these questions makes me confident that he had no knowledge of them. If associations or individual planters, for reasons which I can't understand, feel diffident about approaching me with criticisms or suggestions, surely it is the part of wisdom to use their representative on the Advisory Committee for the purpose. I may say that the discussions of the Advisory Committee are conducted frankly and without favour, and I have not found Mr. Young or Mr. Hill before him at all backward about presenting suggestions or criticisms in connection with the work of the station in general, and Mr. Mayne's work in particular.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, MYSORE STATE,

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
Bangalore, May 18, 1931.

Yours, etc.,

LESLIE C. COLEMAN.
Director of Agriculture.

MADRAS GOVERNMENT ROADS TRAFFIC CONTROL ACT 1931

TELlicherry-Coorg and Calicut-Chundale-Nilgiris
FRONTIER ROADS

The above Act provides for the Local Government making rules for the regulation of the use of roads or for the closing of them, regulation of traffic thereon or reservation of any particular kind of traffic and the imposition of penalties by fines up to Rs. 50 or Rs. 10 for every day during continuance of breach of rules, increased to Rs. 15 per day after conviction for first breach.

On April 16, 1931, the provisions of the Act were extended to the above-named roads and notification to this effect appeared in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated April 21, 1931.

Under this ruling, loads of timber are not to exceed 2 candies unless wheels are fitted with tyres of not less than 4" in width; they are not to exceed 20 feet in length and carts must show a light during the night, etc., etc.

For further particulars vide order in question.

ON THE SO-CALLED SOOTY MOULDS OF TEA

(Summary)

by

DR. K. B. BOEDYN AND DR. A. STEINMANN

The name 'sooty moulds' comprises all those moulds that form dark to black coverings both on branches and on leaves and whose nourishment is obtained not at the expense of the plants on which they thrive but apparently from the sweet excretions (honeydew) produced by certain insects, such as aphids, coccids, cicades, and cicade-like insects.

In tea we distinguish between *real* sooty moulds that live on the exudations of the above-mentioned insects and occur in tea chiefly on the leaves; and *false* or *spurious* sooty moulds that do not live on the excretory products of the insects referred to but on the scale insects themselves. They are not parasitical on the plants. They are to be found exclusively on the branches and belong to the genus *Septobasidium*.

The real sooty moulds have been investigated in Netherland India on various occasions, especially by ZIMMERMANN, BERNARD, and others. In the meantime, the systematic division of the ascomycetæ has been subject to many alterations, so that most of the old species had to be transferred to other genera. Moreover, the black covering produced by sooty moulds does not consist of one single isolated growth, but of various, promiscuously growing kinds, so that it is exceedingly difficult to distinguish the separate forms. In addition, most of the forms exhibit more than one kind of fructification. The ascus form, which is the basis on which the various species must be determined, is rarely found, whilst, on the other hand, many kinds develop one or more types of conidial fructification. As a matter of fact in many descriptions of sooty moulds, various conidial forms have been included that most likely do not belong there.

Of many species, it was found that only the conidial forms could be cultivated with any success, so that for the present we are limited to analysing the sooty moulds *morphologically* and can describe only such species of which the ascus form was found. In view of the fact that sooty moulds of greatly varying types sometimes exhibit the same kind of conidial fructification, it is not advisable to provide the conidial forms with a binary name as is customary for many other groups of fungi.

A description is given of 5 kinds of real sooty moulds on tea, namely : *Capnodium Theae*, *Chaetothyrium javanicum*, *Triposporium*, *Phycopsis Treubii* and an *Antennularia*, and of 2 species of *spurious* sooty moulds, namely, *Septobasidium Theae* and *S. Curtisii* and a survey is given of the various parts and spore formations that are to be found in sooty mould coverings on tea.

A. The Mycelium.

The mycelium constitutes a black layer or covering on leaves and twigs and consists of closely interwoven hyphæ (subiculum). The threads sometimes are strongly septated (dematioid hyphæ) or strongly laced in on the septa, forming cell chains (toruloid hyphae). Some genera, such as *Chaetothyrium*, can be determined solely by the mycelium.

B. The Conidial fructification.

(1) Each single mycelium cell can sprout, especially at the upper ends, in the same manner as yeasts, thus originating colourless conidia. This has been observed in the case of quite a number of ascomycetæ, especially in *Dematioides pullulans* which, by many writers, is regarded as a collective name for a number of mycelia sprouting like yeasts, but which others again regard as a separate form. This manner of sprouting we observed in the mycelia of *Capnodium Theae* and *Chaetothyrium javanicum*.

(2) Some mycelia may form more or less large cell complexes which separate in their entirety and act as conidia (*Coniothecium*-conidia).

(3) Very typical star-shaped conidia occur on a brown septated mycelium. This form is quite general and is found on tea in practically all sooty moulds (*Triposporium* conidia). They usually originate terminally on the threads, are of light brown colour and exhibit 4 or 5 branches one of which always is much shorter than the others and by means of which the conidium is attached to the threads. On the same threads on which originate the *Triposporium* conidia, frequently shorter secondary branches are formed, bottle-shaped and open at the top. Herein colourless conidia originate which reach the outside through an opening in the top (*Chalara* fructifications).

(4) The most striking conidial form in many samples of sooty moulds is a pycnidium with a very long neck (*Microxyphium*-pycnidia). As conidial forms they belong to the genera *Capnodium*, *Aithaloderma*, et al. When only these bottle-shaped pycnidia are encountered (and this is usually the case), one is hardly inclined to refer to them as *Fumago vagans*, as is frequently done.

(5) Sometimes in addition to the *Microxyphium*-pycnidia a similar pycnidial form is encountered, but without these long necks. The conidia originating therein are similar to those of the *Microxyphium* type.

C. The Ascus forms.

These appear generally as perithecia. *Capnodium Theae* for instance has, besides *Microxyphium*-pycnidia, sessile or more often stalked perithecia sometimes pycnidia and perithecia on one common stalk. This once again determines the connection between *Microxyphium*-pycnidia and a *Capnodium*. The perithecia of *Capnodium* contain asci having 8 spores, of dark colour, and divided murally. *Chaetothyrium javanicum* forms in the subiculum only sessile perithecia containing asci with 8 colourless spores murally divided and which are much larger than those of *Capnodium Theae*. Also the perithecium is of a different structure.

Phycopsis Treubii which may appear between all kinds of sooty mould, is characterized by having the appearance of a spherical thallus. On this thallus lumps of conidia originate, the so-called propagulae, and later on, in the thallus, the separately situated asci with 8 bicellular spores.

A quite different type of sooty moulds is formed by a species of *Antennularia*.

The mycelium is *Torula*-shaped with small spherical pycnidia, where-in small elliptical colourless spores are developed. In the mountain regions

this type is often prevalent but in lesser altitudes it is mostly mixed with other sooty moulds.

In combating the disease, again a distinction must be made between the spurious and the real sooty moulds.

(a) The false or spurious sooty mould is formed by two species of *Septobasidium* which however never grow promiscuously and accordingly are always found separate. These are *Septobasidium Theae* and *Septobasidium curtisii*, and both grow on stem and branches only. The former is the more common species. Both show peculiar vesiculous cells (probasidia ?) and *Septobasidium Theae* also forms conidia.

Whereas in this country these as a rule are harmless, in fact, being rather useful in so far as they destroy coccides, their destruction here would be unnecessary.

(b) The real sooty mould, although not penetrating into the plant itself, causes damage because the black covering hinders the assimilation and impedes the respiration of the leaves, and also through the sucking action of the parasite insects. Amongst those insects on the secretions of which the real sooty moulds develop, we found besides *Lecanium viride*, also cicades (*Lawana candida*) and membracidae (*Tricentrus*).

In the combating of sooty moulds which is transferred therefore to the combating of the scale insects themselves, we have to choose between :

(a) The spraying of the bushes with insecticides (kerosene-soap emulsion, carbolineum plantarium). Sometimes lime is added to control more effectively the work of the coolies.

(b) The scraping or washing of the twigs during pruning with a solution of soda, carbolineum, or lime sulphur. Instead of using a brush made of coconut fibre, a roll of rubber crepe can be used.

(c) Indirect treatment, that is to say the destruction of the ants visiting the scale insects. Some coccide colonies, for instance, very soon disappear when they are no longer visited by ants. This is probably also the case with the membracidae.

In the case of the nganrang ant (*Oecophylla smaragdina*), which builds its nest composed of leaves fastened together by means of a silken web in the tea seed trees, we would recommend :

1. scorching the nests, by means of torches or otherwise ;
2. to suspend between and in the trees bones, pieces of meat, etc., and then from time to time destroying the ants found thereon ;
3. poisoning the ant-colonies with a poisonous sugar solution.

If it is a question of ants that construct their nests in the soil, such as the gramang ant (*Plagiolepis longipes*), one may :

1. either try to prevent these ants from reaching the trees by painting round the latter, bands of some sticky material. One may use oiled paper that has been treated with some sticky tangle foot such as is used for caterpillars, bubuk grease, or the gluey material manufactured by the Besoeki Experimental Station by dry distillation of rubber ;

2. or else by making ant traps, either in the shape of holes in the ground of bamboo tubes, containing the proper kind of nesting material, such as dead leaves. As soon as tubes have become inhabited by ants, the contents are shaken out into boiling water. The ants that have settled in the ground-holes are killed with cyano-dust.

Reproduced from :—*Archief Voor de Theecultuur in Nederlandsch-Indie.*

mysore coffee growers

CO-OPERATION NEEDED

Presiding over an Agricultural Conference at Chikmagalur, Dr. L. C. Coleman, Director of Agriculture in Mysore, reviewed the conditions of Coffee planters in Mysore. He said :

'One of the most important agricultural products of this district is coffee, and one may, I think, safely say that the prosperity of the district must depend to no inconsiderable extent upon the prosperity of the coffee industry. This industry has, according to statistics at my disposal, not suffered so severely from the general fall of prices as have most other agricultural industries in the State. Figures I have obtained indicate that the average price obtained for coffee during the past 25 years has been almost exactly Rs. 13 per maund. The price this year has ranged around Rs. 9 a maund, a reduction of about one-third on the average price. This, of course, does not represent the whole of the picture, for it does not show the startling drop that has taken place during the past three years.

'In 1928-29, coffee was selling at Rs. 18 to Rs. 20 a maund, or approximately double of what it is now. Exceptionally high prices which prevailed from the year 1928-29 undoubtedly lulled coffee planters into a feeling of security. Many of the European planters saw and took the opportunity of retiring, expecting a very comfortable income from their estates. Many Indian planters saw no longer the necessity of living in the comparative loneliness of their estates and settled in Chikmagalur or even Bangalore, leaving the management of their estates to managers or their writers. These men have accustomed themselves to a certain mode of life. Some of them have, I fear, not put by for the rainy day that was certain to come. Others have expanded their planting operations beyond their capital on borrowed money. All of these are undoubtedly hard hit by the present fall, for their personal as well as cultivation expenses have gone up during the boom period and it is a difficult and painful business to reduce expenditure to meet the changed conditions.

'Nevertheless, the coffee planters can, I am convinced, congratulate themselves in their position, as compared with the growers of most other crops. Not only have coffee prices not fallen to the extent that was feared ; but the demand for Indian coffee in India has permanently increased.

Owing to persistent representations in which the Government of Mysore have taken a leading part, the Government of India have now prohibited the importation of all foreign-grown coffee into India. This has been for the purpose of preventing the importation of a very serious coffee pest, the coffee berry borer.

MARKET CAN BE INCREASED

'I am convinced that the market for coffee in India can be still further increased but this can be accomplished only through the united efforts of coffee planters. These men are, I think, one of the most intelligent body of agriculturists we have. If they cannot, under the stress of economic conditions, combine for their mutual protection and benefit, I almost despair of the future of agricultural co-operation in this State.

'Some of you have heard of the tentative scheme for the organization of a coffee growers' association, with the primary object of developing the Indian market for our coffee. I believe the development of such a scheme holds out great promise for the future of the coffee industry, but I am equally convinced that its success will depend upon the whole-hearted support and co-operation of both Indian and European coffee growers. If the existing serious economic conditions in the coffee industry lead to the establishment of such an organization, they may turn out to be a very great blessing in disguise.

'It has been the dream of my life in Mysore to see all coffee planters united for their common good. Our coffee experimental station has been organized for the benefit of all, and the Advisory Committee, which governs the activities of that station, consisting of both Indian and European planters, has been working in most cordial co-operation from the inception of the Committee. As far as this State is concerned, I am not a European but a Mysorean, and I would urge on all coffee planters to look upon their industry not purely as a means for making a living for themselves, but as a potent factor in the development of one of the fairest lands on the globe.

SPRAYING

'As you are aware, one of the most important factors in increasing coffee production in the last two or three years, has been the spraying of coffee, first advocated by the Mysore Agricultural Department nearly 20 years ago. There has been a very marked increase in interest in spraying during the past two years, and I can think of no way in which individual planters can better meet the present situation than by extending the spraying operations.

'Increases of 2 cwts. per acre as a result of spraying have been common, while increases of 4 cwts. per acre have been registered. Spraying, however, costs money and the Revenue Commission has most kindly consented to take up the question and to arrange for the grant of takkavi loans for the purchase of spraying material. In addition, I propose to place at the disposal of small planters one hundred sprayers on loan free of charge. This is an indication that the Government departments are not working in water-tight compartments, but that there is a most cordial co-operation and a determination on the part of the Government to help its agriculturists in every feasible manner.

'The work of the Mysore Civil Veterinary Department in the control of rinderpest is a model for the rest of India. In this connection, I must pay a tribute to the officer who more than any one else is responsible for our outstanding position. I refer to Major Simpson, Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department, who is retiring shortly after a long and distinguished service to the State. I look forward to Major Simpson's departure from us with very great regret. His initiative, energy, and single-mindedness of purpose have been outstanding and few of us realize the work of permanent value which he has done for Mysore agriculture.'—*Mysore, May 13.*

NEW METHOD OF RUBBER TAPPING

A DUTCH INVENTION

LOWER COSTS AND BETTER RESULTS

Batavia, April 6.—During the past few years a retired Java rubber planter, Mr. Jules Bosch, has been advocating a new method of rubber-tapping and a tapping-knife invented by him. The results of experiments made on several estates give reason to advocate the study and eventually the adoption of this system as it should lead to a considerable increase of production at the same cost of tapping.

The patent of Mr. Bosch is first concerned with the relative situation of the tapping-panels of Hevea. These panels must alternate with partitions, which must never be touched with the tapping-knife. The tree circumference is, therefore, divided in 4 tapping-panels and 4 alternate partitions—strips of untapped bark—each 2 to 4 inches broad. Besides this, Mr. Bosch has patented a rubber-tapping knife, which is pulled along the tap-cutting and planes off a very thin layer of bark in order to wound the milksap tubes and thus cause the latex to flow.

One of the foremost reasons for the high latex-production and rubber percentage, obtained by Mr. Bosch, is to be found in the circumstance that he is the first to try to adapt tapping to the anatomical structure of the tree. The noted living-power of Hevea has played us considerable tricks in its cultivation. Every draft upon that living-power has been honoured and the tree has, whatever tapping method has been used, not been killed. Another question, however, is whether the different tapping-systems do not have a harmful influence upon the condition of the tree and whether this has not some influence upon the production.

The 4 tapping-panels into which, by the Bosch-system, the circumference is divided are two by two alternately tapped every three days. Every half of the tree's circumference gets alternately three days' rest and three days' tapping. The great advantage, in the opinion of mycologists, of this system is that the flow of sap is not interrupted as the four untouched strips of bark safeguard the natural flow of bark saps.

The number 4 for tapping-panels and partitions is important as the strongly developed side-roots are often arranged in four groups. Taking a few hundred young plants of Hevea and counting the side roots in a stage as young as possible and compiling their numbers, it will be found that the number 12 forms the top of the 'curve.' Mr. Bosch has been very fortunate in experiments in this direction and his long years of observing the rubber tree have brought a solution which will be of value for the rubber industry. He locates the 4 tapping-panels vertically above 4 groups of side-roots. This arrangement of tapping-panels and partitions is one of the prominent reasons for the bigger production obtained by his system.

To explain the merits of the Bosch-system in connection with the anatomical structure of Hevea would lead too far. Sufficient to say that in several experiments a considerable increase of production has been reached by applying this method. In some cases the increase amounted to over 10 per cent.

Planters who have made individual experiments on a small scale have all been astonished at the results of this system, and Mr. Bosch is willing to demonstrate the merits of it and of his knife whenever he is invited.—*The Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal*.

SPRAYING AND DUSTING FOR COFFEE LEAF DISEASE

The recent successful control of Rubber Mildew in Java and Ceylon by dusting with Sulphur, has led to several enquiries from Coffee planters as to the possibilities of this cheap and rapid fungicidal treatment for the prevention of Coffee Leaf Disease. The following notes are intended to indicate the great difficulties in the way of success and the reasons why it is very unlikely that dusting will ever afford a substitute for the slower and more costly process of spraying :

In controlling any fungus disease, it is obvious that the method used must be determined by the particular habits of the fungus concerned, and it is this factor which must first claim attention. Rubber Mildew is caused by the activities of a fungus which attacks the young flush of leaves, causing them to wither and fall. It can also establish itself on older leaves but the damage done thereon is comparatively slight and has an importance only in so far as such leaves form a suitable refuge for the fungus during unfavourable periods. The consequence of this is that the period of danger for the disease is relatively a short one, rarely more than a few weeks in the year. Moreover, this period of the year is usually characterised by fairly dry weather conditions. Mildew has been described as a dry weather disease.

The fungus causing Mildew on rubber does the damage by extracting nourishment from the young leaves, but in doing so, the main 'body' of the fungus remains outside the leaf. It merely inserts its sucking organs into the superficial layers of the leaf tissue, while still growing and producing spores on the surface. For the whole of its active life it is possible to bring a fungicide into contact with it.

These circumstances are the basis of the success of dusting ; the short time during which the disease is active, the external habitat of the fungus and the dry weather conditions during the active period. It is possible, by means of sulphur dusting, to attack and kill the parasite before it has time to do its maximum damage. The dust can kill not only the germinating spores but also the adult fungus on the leaf surfaces. Further, the ease and rapidity of dusting enables the treatment to be repeated at frequent intervals during the danger period. Dusting therefore acts mainly as a destructive agent on the tissues and spores of the fungus.

Turning to Coffee Leaf Disease, the conditions are found to be entirely different. The fungus in this case attacks Coffee leaves of any age after they have expanded to their full size, and is therefore not restricted to one short period in the year. Given suitable conditions of climate, the disease can develop at any time. In South India, the disease may be considered as active for at least 8 months in the year and may show heavy damage as early as July or not until as late as October. During this lengthy period, the character of the weather is mainly wet though in the early and late periods the rainfall is more or less intermittent.

As with the Mildew fungus, the Leaf Disease fungus causes damage by extracting nourishment from the leaves it attacks. It sets about it, however, in a rather different manner, for, instead of sending small sucking organs into the leaf surface while the main body remains outside, it makes its way at the very beginning into the interior of the leaf and from its 'body' in the spaces between the leaf cells, sends its sucking organs into the cells of the deeper tissues. There the fungus remains, only pushing its way to the surface in order to set free its thick-walled spores which reproduce the disease elsewhere.

Thus, the conditions for disease development and the habits of the fungus, are quite different from those of Rubber Mildew. It is active over

a long period of time during which a variety of weather conditions, mostly wet, are encountered and almost the whole of the life of the fungus is passed in the interior of the leaf. This last point is very important, for it means that the fungus is only vulnerable for a very short period of time during its life. It is impossible to destroy the fungus once it has established itself in the interior of the leaf. The vulnerable period is between the germination of the spore and the penetration of the germ tube through a stoma on the under-surface of a leaf and is unlikely to be more than 24 hours.

The only way to deal effectively with the fungus, is by a preventative treatment by the use of a fungicide which will be ready on the leaf throughout the danger period and can destroy the germ tubes as they may appear on the leaf. The requirements of this treatment are relative permanence, (resistance to rain, retention of fungicidal power) and effective covering of the leaf surfaces that it is required to protect. It is in regard to permanence that the dusts fail most completely as they will not stand the heavy washing effect of monsoon rains, and the weather conditions of the long period of danger preclude any number of applications at short intervals. Further the covering power of a dust cannot be controlled so as to obtain an even coating over the leaves.

Dusts are more efficient as killing agents than as protective agents; and in the case of Leaf Disease it is protection against attacks, not the destruction of the fungus after it has appeared, that is required. This protection is much more satisfactorily provided by a spray with an adhesive, giving an even, lasting coating of fungicide over the leaf surface.

In view of these objections, it is hardly necessary to comment on the purely mechanical difficulties of dusting effectively a low close-planted crop like Coffee as compared with a tall wide-planted one like Rubber.

In conclusion, it may be said that the objections here raised have been borne out by all the experiments which have been made with dusts on Coffee. It seems that there is little hope of replacing spraying by dusting in the control of Leaf Disease.

NETRACONDA, DURGADBETTA P.O.,
May 14, 1931.

W. WILSON MAYNE.

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COFFEE AND TEA

We publish below an extract from an original circular issued by Messrs. Nortz & Co., New York, for which we are indebted to Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut:

COFFEE

	March 31, 1931	February 28, 1931	March 31, 1930	March 31, 1929
Receipts in Rio and Santos.	11,855,000	10,456,000	9,756,000	8,916,000
Stocks in Rio and Santos...	1,250,000	1,264,000	1,330,000	1,333,000
Visible supply in United States ...	1,655,744	1,787,925	1,321 245	1,230,864
Deliveries in United States since March 2 ...	1,239,135	949,974	1,088,423	901,770
Arrivals of Milds since March 2 ...	354,757	257,216	376,607	283,430
Exchange rate, Pence ...	3 21/32	4 1/16	5 27/32	5 119/128
Exchange rate, Dollars ...	13\$550	12\$160	8\$450	8\$330
Santos 4's, Spot ...	17\$600	15\$000-16\$000	21\$000	33\$500
Rio 7's, Spot ...	12\$675	11\$575	...	...
Santos 4's, May ...	18\$500	...	23\$800	37\$275

The following are the comparative figures for the consumption of coffee established by Mr. L. Regray in Havre, mentioned in our last market

letter. We have added the figures for tea contained in the last edition of the *Coffee and Tea Trade Journal*. The figures offer food for thought and require no comment:

	Population in millions 1929	Consumption of Coffee in kilos <i>per capita</i>			Consumption of Tea in kilos <i>per capita</i> 1929/30	Consumption of Coffee 1929/30 in bags	Consumption of Tea 1929/30 in kilos
		1895/1900	1913	1929/ 1930			
EUROPE :							
Austria	... 6,750	(AH) 1·00	(AH) 1·10	1·08	0·08	122,000	544,000
Belgium	... 7,875	4·60	4·95	5·35	0·03	700,000	280,000
Bulgaria	... 5,650	...	...	0·16	...	16,000	...
Czecho-Slovakia	14,350	(AII) 1·00	(AH) 1·10	0·89	0·04	212,000	633,000
Denmark	... 3,450	3·70	5·60	7·30	0·14	420,000	542,000
Finland	... 3,550	...	3·95	5·20	0·03	310,000	126,000
France	... 40,750	2·00	2·90	4·175	0·04	2,835,000	1,499,000
Germany	... 62,568	2·75	2·50	2·40	0·09	2,465,000	5,809,000
Great Britain	... 45,500	0·30	0·30	0·42	4·11	320,000	191,102,000
Greece	... 7,000	...	0·54	0·83	...	97,000*	265,000
Holland	... 7,730	7·50	7·00	4·70	1·72	605,000	13,320,000
Hungary	... 8,500	(AH) 1·00	(AH) 1·10	0·32	0·004	45,000	324,000
Ireland	... 4,230	...	0·17	3·56	...	4,500*	10,573,000
Italy	... 40,800	0·45	0·80	1·15	0·003	780,000	153,000
Jugo-Slavia	... 13,000	...	0·40	0·78	0·03	170,000	352,000
Latvia	... 1,870	...	...	0·096	0·05	3,000*	92,000
Lithunia	... 2,285	...	...	0·12	0·03	5,000	79,000
Norway	... 2,780	5·30	5·10	5·60	0·06	260,000	170,000
Poland	... 27,170	...	...	0·26	0·06	120,000	2,011,000
Portugal	... 5,770	...	0·65	0·52	...	50,000	...
Roumania	... 17,220	...	0·45	0·24	...	70,000	...
Russia	... 160,000	0·15	0·16	0·01	...	25,000*	...
Spain	... 22,280	0·35	0·75	1·07	...	400,000	...
Sweden	... 6,075	4·80	5·50	7·15	0·06	720,000	398,000
Switzerland	... 3,880	3·50	3·15	3·40	0·18	220,000	711,000
AMERICA :							
Argentina	... 10,460	...	1·70	1·83	...	320,000	...
Canada	... 9,485	...	1·00	0·95	2·16	150,000*	21,668,000
Chile	... 4,000	...	1·37	1·35	...	90,000	...
Cuba	... 3,475	...	4·50	5·15	...	300,000	...
Paraguay	... 863	...	0·17	0·14	...	2,000	...
United States	... 118,000	4·40	4·40	5·45	0·32	10,880,000	39,177,000
Uruguay	... 1,695	...	1·62	1·31	...	37,000	...
AFRICA :							
Algeria	... 6,060	...	1·40	1·28	0·18	130,000	1,145,000
Cape	... 7,350	...	1·89	1·71	...	210,000	...
Egypt	... 14,170	...	0·52	0·65	...	155,000	...
Tunis	... 2,160	...	...	0·725	0·69	26,000	1,426,000
ASIA :							
China	... 450,000	...	0·005	0·0002	..	2,000	...
Japan	... 79,400	...	0·002	0·005	...	5,000	...
Turkey	... 13,300	0·80	0·60	0·41	...	£0,000*	...
AUSTRALIA	... 6,230	...	0·29	0·41	3·52	23,000	23,036,000
Various	... 750,000	...	...	...	...	148,000	...

(AH)—Austria-Hungary.

* Estimated.

The outstanding features since our market letter of March 19, are: first, the Congress of wheat growing countries in Rome with, so far, no tangible results achieved or in sight. Then the Farm Board here has given notice that it is going to cease its purchases of wheat after May 1. Information has also been received of the suspension of payments by Peru and the refusal of New South Wales to pay their next coupons and the responsibility for these payments has now been assumed by the Australian Commonwealth. One hundred thousand bags of coffee are said to have been spoiled by rain in warehouses in Santos. These facts, of a widely different character, all have a certain bearing on the coffee situation. In the case of wheat they show how hard it is to conciliate conflicting farm interests, even though they may be suffering from the most trying circumstances. They mean, in the case of coffee that it appears utterly improbable that other coffee producing countries will be prompted to cut down their own production when they are perfectly well satisfied with the price they obtain, simply in order to help others reduce their own surplus. The decision of the Farm Board shows that even though one may dispose of all the money of Uncle Sam and that even though our Legislature may have been actuated in its purchases of wheat mainly by party motives, even Governments will get tired of throwing good money after bad, and in the end they will have to do what common sense dictates. Notice has been given to our farmers that they will have to cut down the acreage of their coming grain crop by 20 per cent to permit of a change in the burdened supply situation which has developed. This means, as in the case of Brazilian coffee growers that it has become imperative that they come down to earth. So far Sao Paulo has tried to evade the issue by proposing all kinds of solutions such as the Defense of the planting of new trees—which, in the presence of the enormous amount of trees already existing, amounts to a mere gesture.

The Brazilian Situation.—The striking fact remains that in all the solutions proposed by Sao Paulo, no mention is made anywhere about the necessity of reducing their coffee output—on the contrary, their every aim is to perpetuate it at present levels. To produce coffee and then to destroy part of it and to try to make the consumer pay for it, is utter nonsense. Is it necessary here to call to mind once again that the very essence of the problem of Sao Paulo is that this State, having produced during the first 25 years of the present century about 10,250,000 bags of coffee a year and now having raised its average producing capacity by about 30 per cent or to about 13,000,000 bags a year finds herself compelled by circumstances to curtail her output to about 8,000,000 bags a year, which is all that is needed from her for the next ten years in order to permit of the absorption of surplus stocks now accumulated. The unfortunate thing is that it has become an article of faith, almost unshakable, with many influential Brazilian coffee planters, that no matter how much coffee they produce, the Government will somehow or other take care of it, and thereby protect them from their own lack of foresight. The former formula 'o cafe paga tudo' has been changed by them to 'o Governo paga tudo,' which to their minds settled everything. It has ruined Brazil.

As to the destruction of 100,000 bags of coffee in Santos by rain through defective storage (this information has just been received), this only serves to once more recall the precarious position of the surplus stocks now accumulated in Brazil—practically all hypothecated to foreign finance.

In the eyes of Brazilians, these stocks now appear merely as a stepchild which is in everybody's way and which will gradually, in the public mind, become res nullius. For argument's sake, take it that the safety of these 16,000,000 bags mortgaged abroad, for some reason political or otherwise, should become impaired. Is there anybody to believe that the United States or England would send their fleet to Brazil to protect the interest of bond holders for having omitted to comply with the most elementary safeguards of creditors usual in such circumstances i.e., obtaining the virtual control and possession of their collateral?

Information just received from Brazil states that on or about March 4, the Federal Government handed over to the Sao Paulo Government 50,000 Contos de Reis or about \$4,000,000 in order to begin the purchase of coffee in official warehouses. What happened everybody knows—the Santos Coffee Exchange having been re-opened at the same time, coffee was bought in Santos and in New York at the highest price possible. It reminds one of the actions of a boy who, around the Fourth of July, is given a five-dollar bill to buy a pair of shoes but who immediately invests it in fireworks knowing in advance what his father will say to him about it.

Statistically, being given the excellent prospects for next season and the subsequent crop, things appear as practically hopeless. We have to record with deep regret that, according to information which we have received, the Government of Dr. Vargas has lately been losing ground. The reason is obvious ; it is impossible to handle a situation like that of Brazil with its overwhelming coffee producing interests to be kept in check, by persuasion. What is necessary to clean it up is a rod of iron. Nobody appeared to be better suited for such a tremendous and thankless task than the President, coming from a State where no coffee is grown and having a strongly armed force behind him to carry out his orders. As it is he seems to be surrounded by cross currents and local influences which are clinging to him seeking protection in secrecy and which will not hesitate to drag the whole economic structure of Brazil into the deep if, by so doing, they can stave off the inevitable end even for a short time.

Those of our Brazilian friends who are not yet convinced, will have to realize that the days of make-believe and raids on the funds of foreign investors, are gone and that hard facts will have to be recognized as well as their economic significance. Coffee will have to be permitted to find its own price level so as to produce a natural effect on production and to permit of consuming markets to again become interested in higher prices and in the largest possible distribution of coffee to consumption. No moment could be more favourable for this than the present, when the contemplated funding of Brazil's foreign obligations will free her for a while from one cause of latent worry. The financial and economic resurrection of Brazil will be at this price. The eclipse, when it comes, will only be short-lived, but the recovery on a sound regenerated basis will be rapid.

As to our coffee market, all there is to say is that owing to all that has transpired, there is neither a spirit of enterprise nor faith nor confidence nor business activity. The prevailing sentiment is simply one of disgust

and weariness with conditions. There seems to be nothing else to do for the present but to await further developments.

April 2 March 19

BRAZIL QUOTATIONS—

Santos 4s, Cost and Freight	... 8 -10	8 - 8½
Santos 4s, Spot	... 8½- 8¾	8¾- 9
Rio 7s, Cost and Freight	... 4·95	5·35
Rio 7s, Spot	... 5½	5½

JAVA ROBUSTA—

Washed, Cost and Freight	... 7½	8
Washed, Spot	... 8 - 8½	8½

MARACAIBO—

Trujillo	... 9	9
Fair to good	... 11 -11½	11 -11½
Cucuta, washed	... 15	15

LA GUAYRA—

Caracas, washed	... 13½-15½	13½ 15½
Puerto Cabello	... 9	9
Puerto Cabello, washed	... 13 -15	13 -15

We quote :

	May	July	September	December	March
Rio Contract 'A'					
April 1	... 4·87	4·99	5·03	5·13	5·20
March 18	... 5·20	5·26	5·33	5·41	5·50
Santos Contract 'D'					
April 1	... 7·91	7·97	7·97	8·00	8·08
March 18	... 8·21	8·30	8·30	8·25	8·34
'Mild Contract 'F'					
April 1	... 15·0	...	14 0/10	14·20	13·90
March 18	... 15·00	...	14·25	14·35	...

April 2, 1931.

¹Quotations nominal.

LATEX TUBES AND YIELD

ASHPLANT'S CLAIM ANALYSED

The claim made by Mr. H. Ashplant as far back as 1927 that, by reference to the diameter of the latex tubes, it was possible as early as the nursery stage to distinguish with practical certainty between rubber plants destined to become high yielders and those which would become low yielders was received at the time with considerable scepticism, and has not since made many converts. His statements may be summarized as follows :—

1. A very striking correlation exists between the yield capacity and the diameter of the latex tubes. This correlation is considerably better than the relation found between the number of latex rings and the yield of rubber.

2. A Hevea tree with latex tubes with large diameter in the bark also has large bore tubes in the leafstalk.

3. The size of the diameter of the latex tubes in an individual tree is constant during the whole duration of life from its earliest youth (six months old), and hereditary.

From these hypotheses the conclusion was drawn that a single cut through the leafstalk of a six-months old Hevea seedling suffices to decide in all probability whether the tree, when tappable, will be a good or poor yielder. In announcing this Mr. Ashplant unfortunately failed to adduce proofs of the second and third of his hypotheses, and he also omitted to disclose his method of measuring the diameter of the latex tubes with a degree of accuracy corresponding to the correlation tables by which he supported his first hypothesis.

Such a method of selection would have been invaluable for practical purposes, and it is, therefore, disappointing to have confirmed by Dr. A. Frey-Wyssling, the unfavourable opinion which the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya expressed in a now famous communication. Dr. Frey-Wyssling in an account of his investigation given in Communication of the General Experimental Station of the A.V.R.O.S., agrees that on theoretical considerations a very striking correlation between the diameter of the latex tubes and the production might be expected. But at the conclusion of his investigation he found that, whilst, generally speaking, the best yielders of dry rubber had wide tubes, the converse did not hold good. In the material examined by him the correlation between tube bore and the yield of rubber was worse than that between number of rings of latex tubes and yield. Two reasons are given why the trees with large tubes can be poor yielders. In the first place the anatomy of the bark does not satisfy the theoretical requirements, as many tubes end blindly instead of running through. Secondly, consequent on known or as yet unknown physiological causes insufficient accumulation of latex in the whole system, unsatisfactory regeneration, absence of the dilution reaction on tapping, etc., the tree does not reach the maximum yield. In this instance an increase of yield by manuring may be expected.

The upshot of Dr. Frey-Wyssling's investigations is that, as regards the trees examined, the diameter method is of no more value than counting the rings of tubes. Both methods are handicapped by the same fault—a finely developed system of tubes is not necessarily accompanied by a more than normal yield power. 'The yielding power,' he concludes, 'is inscrutably hidden in the finer physiology of the Hevea tree.'

Ashplant's hypothesis that trees with large bore tubes in the bark also possess wide tubes in other parts, was corroborated to a certain extent. The ratio between the diameter of the bark tubes and that of the leafstalk tubes varies in the examined material from 0·56 to 0·83 with an average of $0\cdot686 = 0\cdot010$. In this connection it should be mentioned that the ratio is more constant in known crosses than in kampong trees. His third hypothesis regarding the constancy of diameter of the latex tubes from the sixth month, and the hereditability of this, could not be checked, since such an investigation would have taken years.

Owing to lack of data in Ashplant's publications it was impossible, during the above investigations, to follow his own method of working, and the greater part of the available time was spent in working out a flawless microtechnique for the measuring of the diameter of the latex tubes. Full particulars of this method of measuring are given and latex investigators will, therefore, be spared the trouble of working out a satisfactory technique.

—The Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal.

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FREIGHT ON RUBBER

Colombo, Wednesday, April 29.—MR. WALTER SHAKESPEARE, when he addressed the Ceylon Association in London on Monday, deplored that there was one economy which the rubber industry in Ceylon had not been able to effect to the desired extent. And that was in regard to the freight rates. They still had to pay 57s. 6d. per ton for the shipment of rubber from Colombo to London. This rate may have been reasonable when the price of rubber was at an economic level. But at present, a ton of rubber is worth very little, and the freight on it represents more than one-tenth of its price. The export duty, in the present state of the market, as MR. DAVID SCOTT points out to-day, amounts to about one-fifth of the value of the rubber shipped. Producers would, therefore, seem to have good reason to complain.

The agitation for a reduction of freights, which MR. SHAKESPEARE said would be still pursued, has borne little fruit in the past. Strenuous representations were made early last year to the shipping interests, and the rate to the United Kingdom was decreased from 65s. to 57s. 6d. But the concession was soon followed by an increase in the freight rate to the United States of America from 45s. to 47s. 6d. These adjustments were made when the local price of rubber was in the neighbourhood of 40 cents a pound. Later in the year, when the price had declined sharply, representations were again made urging a further reduction. But the shipping companies were adamant. The Chamber of Commerce pointed out the absolute necessity for a reduction in freight as some help to an industry which was struggling for its existence. Action was being taken in Singapore to obtain this concession, and London and Ceylon interests approached the Homeward Conference with a similar urgent request. But the burden of the replies received was that the shipping industry itself was severely feeling the effects of present trade conditions and that a reduction of freights while tending to reduce still further the depleted earnings of the steamship lines would be of little material assistance to rubber growers. On this last point, the best judges would be the rubber growers themselves. It is clear, from MR. SHAKESPEARE'S remarks, that they still think the gain to the industry from a reduction in freight would be considerable.

However, the agitation is likely to be as unavailing as the demand for a reduction of the export duty on rubber. On the one hand, the shipping companies, and, on the other hand, the Ceylon Government declare unhelpfully that they are equally the victims of the depression and are unable to sacrifice any part of their dwindling revenue by lending a crippled industry a much needed crutch. The argument that assistance to rubber may hasten the trade revival and so replenish their depleted coffers once more does not appeal to them. They prefer to let the rubber industry save itself as best it can.

—*Ceylon Observer.*

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NO HOPE FROM COFFEE

Colombo, Friday, May 1.—DR. CRAMER, the Dutch rubber expert, writes *Ceylon Observer*, Weekly Edition, dated May 5, 1931, could not have been serious when he suggested that coffee might once more be made a staple product of Ceylon. Desperate as the rubber position is, no one has proposed the desperate remedy of abandoning the industry altogether and restoring King Coffee, whose disastrous dethronement will never be erased from the memory of Ceylon agriculturists.

Coffee is not produced locally on anything like a commercial scale at present. When the crash came, the cultivation of Arabian coffee in Ceylon gradually died out, giving place to tea and other products. There are, however, scattered trees that thrive in many districts. In recent years there have been successful experiments with robust types of coffee, which yield good crops. There is a good demand for seeds and plants from the areas grown in the Experiment Stations, and with freedom from leaf disease and insect pests, there is always the possibility of extending the cultivation of coffee in the Island. But how will it benefit Ceylon or relieve the industrial depression? Last year, the amount of coffee imported by Ceylon amounted to 2,784,341 lbs. The bulk of it came from the Dutch East Indies. Ceylon exported in the same year a little over 12,000 lbs. of coffee produced on her scattered plantations. If the systematic cultivation of coffee is undertaken in Ceylon, it will be possible for the Island to be self-supporting in respect of at least one of its minor needs.

But any attempt to compete in the world market for coffee at present would be calamitous. Coffee suffers as much from over-production as any other industry. In the last three years the excess of world production of coffee over world consumption has been 22,188,015 bags. The mean annual increase in consumption is between 200,000 and 300,000 bags, so that several decades will elapse before the surplus stock has disappeared. Would it not be the height of economic folly for Ceylon to contemplate replacing rubber with coffee when the crisis is as acute in one industry as in the other? Besides, coffee is in a sense a serious rival to tea, and it would be absurd for Ceylon to be spending money on tea propaganda in the attempt, for instance, to wean America from the coffee-drinking habit and at the same time rely for her prosperity on a greater production of the discarded beverage! The competition offered by Brazil and the Dutch East Indies would be so formidable that Ceylon could not dream of taking its place again among the world's coffee-producing countries even if DR. CRAMER'S prediction came true and the rubber industry went the way of all irrevocable failures.

—*Ceylon Observer.*

LONDON TEA SALES

The practice in the London tea auctions is described in the Imperial Economic Committee's Report on Tea.

The tea is despatched by the garden managers to the local port where the managing agents consign it to their corresponding firm in London, who undertake the marketing. From the docks it goes into warehouses, where until the duty was finally removed in 1929, it was held in bond. With the exception of China tea, which is now a relatively unimportant fraction of the whole and is sold by private treaty, the great bulk is put up for public auction by selling brokers acting for the managing agents, and bid for by buying brokers acting for the blenders and dealers.

SELLING AND BUYING BROKERS

Before the sale, the selling brokers inspect the packages in the warehouses, draw samples from each 'break,' test the samples in the offices, and issue catalogues. If any 'break' is found to run unevenly it is turned out in the warehouses and re-bulked. Catalogues being issued, the tea is put on show in the warehouses, and samples are exhibited in the sale rooms. The next stage is for the buyers to draw samples for valuation. By the time the day of sale arrives, both buying and selling brokers have formed their idea of the value of each break, and have received instructions from their principals. The selling brokers are usually instructed to sell 'at best,' but may be instructed not to sell below a given price. It may be noted in passing that in the averages for the results of the week's sales issued by the London Tea Brokers' Association, the unaccepted bids are included in the calculation. When any lot is thus withdrawn, the selling broker endeavours to sell it later by private treaty.

In addition to acting as selling agents on behalf of the producer, selling brokers also do a certain amount of business on behalf of purchasers whose orders they have received before the auction. These orders are placed through the selling brokers' 'market men,' who appear in the box with the selling brokers, and bid precisely as do other persons in the room. We have been informed that the market man does not disclose his top price or his orders to his principal, but buys as cheaply as he can. If he disclosed the orders given to him in confidence by the buyers or bought at prices higher than the market he would quickly lose his business. Business of this character is principally done on behalf of smaller shippers who supply Continental orders. The market man receives a salary from the selling broker, and is therefore his employee, but he also receives $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission on purchase, this $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. being additional to the 1 per cent. received by the selling broker. Although on the face of it, it may appear unlikely that these market men can act in a dual capacity without prejudice to the interests of either selling broker or buyer, we have received no evidence to the effect that the arrangement operates unfairly to either party.

Generally, the selling broker acts in the interests of the producer, and his duty is to obtain the highest price for the teas placed on the market by producers, in return for a remuneration of 1 per cent. on the selling price. We have received no complaints against selling brokers. They appear to carry out their duties with satisfaction to the trade and without detriment to the consumer. In fact, they form an essential part of the organization for placing tea at the consumer's disposal.

The immediate purchasers of most of the tea auctioned at Mincing-lane are the buying brokers. They number about a dozen, and are members of the Tea Buying Brokers' Association of London. Six of these firms have been described to us as relatively big firms. Buying brokers do not normally buy tea to hold, but resell later to dealers, blenders, and merchants at a commission of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In practice all purchasers of tea who do not give their orders to selling brokers' market men (a procedure which is described above), buy tea through buying brokers, except that occasionally as a convenience, distributors' representatives will bid in the room if their buying broker is not present or is occupied, but the business is always put through the buying broker, and the buying broker is paid his commission of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. We have been informed that during the last 40 years there has been a change in practice, and buying brokers now obtain a bigger proportion of the orders as compared with the selling broker than was once the case. Although the auctions are public, and nominally anyone is entitled to bid, it has been stated to us that if a bidder, not a recognized buying broker, were to enter the market, or, if one of the big distributors were to instruct his buyer to bid at the market, not through the intermediary of a buying broker, the buying brokers would 'run' the price with the object of securing that all sales of tea should pass through their own hands.

According to the evidence given to us by the Tea Buying Brokers' Association of London, buying brokers assist the trade (1) by selecting suitable teas in public sale for their clients and submitting samples and valuations to those clients, (2) by executing part orders for a parcel of tea and taking over the balance of the parcel, thus enabling the smaller dealer to obtain the tea he wants, (3) by executing confidentially orders for clients who very often have no time to attend the sale themselves, (4) by buying as cheaply as possible in the sale.

BIDDING

The bidding for tea is done in pence and farthings per lb., and the same price is frequently offered by many buyers, none of whom may be willing to raise his offer. The parcel then goes to the first bidder, and it will be of advantage to other buying brokers who need supplies to repurchase the tea from him and divide the commission with him rather than to offer an extra $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. After purchase of a particular 'break' other buying brokers will therefore frequently call to the successful bidder, and, generally, if not invariably, the bidder divides up his consignment at the purchase price, sharing the commission of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., with the other buying brokers. In effect, therefore, two sales are going on simultaneously in the same room.

It often happens, however, that buying brokers in anticipation of orders from clients in the near future, will buy tea for which they do not possess orders. These teas are placed on a 'bought-over list' and, in fact, whatever quantity of tea is not resold by the buying broker in the auction room is normally placed by him on his 'bought-over list.' These lists are issued daily, and from them dealers, blenders, and other distributors select the quantities and kinds of tea which they require.

We are informed that many firms rely entirely on the 'bought-over lists' for their supplies, and it is claimed that this eliminates much competition from the auction room.

At first sight it would appear that the buying broker is an unnecessary unit in the chain of distribution and that his intervention merely has the

effect of raising the price of tea, both by increasing the strength of the bidding, and to the extent of the buying brokers' commission of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. There are, however, two reasons which are put forward in justification of the buying brokers' existence. The first is that he enables smaller purchasers of tea to obtain portions of parcels instead of being obliged to purchase the whole of one parcel at the auction. The results are stated to be that to this extent bidding is decreased and the purchaser is enabled to offer his client (who is generally the grocer) a larger selection of teas. The system may therefore on these grounds be a convenience to the consumer. The second reason is that purchasers are able to conceal their identity by making use of the buying brokers' services. If the distributor instructed his buyer to bid openly in the auction his competitors would have information as to the nature and quantity of his business, and this might result in loss of trade. We are informed that the buying broker has been in existence from very early days, and that his influence in the market has steadily grown. It seems to us unlikely that if, as a general rule, he performed an uneconomic function his clients would have continued increasingly to do business through him. If tea distributors prefer to disguise their buying under the cloak of the buying broker, it is to be presumed that they do so because it suits them. Elimination of the buying broker would result in the large tea distributors instructing their buyers (who in spite of their name do not actually bid at the auction they attend, but are the permanent employees in charge of the buying departments of the distributing firms) to make bids in the auction room. The effect might very well be a combination of some or all of the larger distributing firms to drive out of the market the smaller distributors who at present obtain their supplies under the cloak of the buying broker.

SCOTLAND'S WEMBLEY EXHIBITION

THOUSAND YEARS OF EMPIRE PROGRESS

Scotland is to have pride of place in the Empire Exhibition the Empire Marketing Board is organising in the Kelvin Hall in connection with Glasgow's Civic and Empire Week at the end of May.

The entire hall, one of the largest and best in the country, is being given over to the Exhibition. The Empire Marketing Board is the biggest exhibitor. It has taken 30,000 square feet of space in the centre of the hall, and facing the entrance is the Scottish exhibit. The countries taking part in it with Scotland are England and Wales, Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Irish Free State, Newfoundland, Southern Rhodesia, India, East Africa, and the Gold Coast.

The story the Empire Marketing Board is to tell at Glasgow is the story of Empire development over a thousand years. Primarily the story is to be told through ships, a procession of which, all accurately modelled to scale, will take the visitor through the centuries from A.D. 700 to the present day. The ship is the symbol of the development of both the industrial weight of Great Britain and of its maritime prowess, and both will be illustrated, the final result being seen in the *Dreadnought* of 1930 and the liner of 1931.

What has the development of a thousand years led to? In the individual exhibits of the Home Country, and of the Dominions and Colonies lies the answer. There are the fruits of expansion of the Empire—in the

food products of Scotland, England and Wales, in the apples of Canada, in the butter and cheese of Australia and New Zealand, in the wines of South Africa, in the furs and fish of Newfoundland, and in the myriad products, raw and manufactured, of the Colonies.

How can they best be used? The Empire Marketing Board answers that question too. Right in the middle of its section stands an imposing Empire kitchen, in which all day and every day expert demonstrators show how Empire foods should be prepared for the table.

The Empire Marketing Board's cooking demonstrations have already in other parts of the country, done a lot to popularise the use of Empire foods. It is hoped that they will have the same effect in Glasgow.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

U.P.A.S.I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 20, 1931.

Our attention has been drawn to an error in the proceedings of this Meeting, reported on page 212 of the **PLANTERS' CHRONICLE**, dated May 9. There it is stated, that during the discussion on the proposed affiliation with Ceylon Tea Research Institute, Mr. Strachan, speaking for the Kanan Devan Planters' Association, said that,—'Whereas his Association was willing to pay seven annas per acre, they would agree to six annas, if it was the wish of the majority.' Mr. Strachan writes that he did not make this statement, but voted against the resolution proposing that the cess be fixed at six annas an acre.

* * *

ADDRESS LIST

Mr. E. N. PINKS, Honorary Secretary of the Kanan Devan Planters' Association, intimates that all communications for him in future should be addressed to Sholamallay Estate, Munnar P.O., Travancore.

* * *

STEAMER FREIGHT ON TEA AND RUBBER

We are indebted to Messrs. Aspinwall & Co., Limited, for the information that Messrs. Hall Line Limited's local Agents have made a reduction in the steamer freight on Tea and Rubber shipped from Malabar Coast Ports to London and Continental Ports, amounting to 5s. per shipping ton.

— : o : —

CORRESPONDENCE

U.P.A.S.I. General Reserve Fund

The Editor, 'The Planters Chronicle'.

Dear Sir,

On page 213 of your issue of May 9, 1931, among the minutes of the General Committee meeting held on 20, at Coonoor, Mr. Walmesley is reported to have said:—

'It was agreed that the Reserve was common to all products.' and on page 214 a resolution is reported—

'that the withdrawal be definitely taken from Reserve.'

In order to settle finally all argument as to how much cash each product had to its credit in Upasi reserves, in or about 1929 the Upasi auditors went into all figures for the 10 years 1919/29 and reported the position roughly to be as follows :—

Upasi Head Office Reserve.	At credit	Rs. 105,000
Tea	"	" 97,000
Coffee	"	" 66,000
Minor Products	"	" 450
Labour Department	"	" 41,000
Rubber	" Deficit	" 19,000

Whether these figures have been brought up to date since then I do not know, but I am unable to find any record of them; anyhow they probably have not altered very materially.

They show that by 1929 Rubber had received (of course at the expense of tea and coffee) some Rs. 19,000 more than it had paid, yet it has apparently now been agreed to make a further withdrawal from reserve for the benefit of rubber.

From what reserve is this withdrawal to be made and against what account? From Head Office, from Tea, from Coffee, or from the Labour Department.

And how can such a withdrawal be reconciled with the resolution passed at the Annual General meeting on August 28, 1929 'that surplus balances of departments should be placed into Upasi General reserve, but that each individual department shall have a prior claim on the amount standing to its credit as from 1919 ?

From the point of view of business, the Rubber Association members of the Upasi have got into their present difficulties owing to bad leadership and failure to build up reserves in times of prosperity; and from a sentimental point of view, however willing tea and coffee planters are to help friends in difficulties, coffee certainly cannot afford at present to give such help nor in the immediate future can tea expect to be able to.

Also it is useless to blink the fact that the Upasi eventually had to write off some of the loan which it made to rubber in a previous slump.

Perhaps you, Mr. Editor, or one of the members of the Executive Committee will inform your readers from what reserve fund it is proposed now to make the withdrawal in favour of rubber and by whom it has been agreed that, notwithstanding the auditors' statement, the Reserve Fund is common to all products?

As a business organization, the Upasi should be run on business, not on sentimental lines, and I therefore consider that, if it has not already been done, the statement showing the position of each product in regard to reserve funds should be brought up to-date and so maintained annually hereafter.

Yours faithfully,
A. K. THOMAS.

THE CLUB, COIMBATORE,
May 15, 1931.

DISTRICT NOTES NILGIRI-WYNAAD

Proceedings of the thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association held at 11-30 a.m. on April 27, 1931, at the Gudalur Rest-House

Present :

Messrs. C. K. Pittcock (*Chairman*), R. M. Nicolls, G. W. Fulcher, J. Upton Body, J. C. Osborne, N. Johnston, J. E. Hancock, A. L. Lang, J. E. Bisset, G. Bayzand, Stuart S. Light, A. N. Scott Hart, R. B. C. Arthur, C. O. Commin and A. R. Innes (*Honorary Secretary*).

The Honorary Secretary read the Notice calling the meeting.

Honorary Secretary's Report.

'MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my report on the business of the Association for the year ending the March 31, 1931.

19 Estates subscribed to the Association, this number being the same as last year. The acreage on which subscription was paid was 15,824 acres as compared with 15,591 for the previous year—an increase of 233 acres. Periashola Estate gave notice of resignation one year ago, which notice has since been confirmed, and that Estate ceased to belong to the Association as from the March 31.

22 Personal members subscribed to the Association as compared with 23 for the previous year. You will see from the accounts that the personal subscriptions of two members have been written off. Both these gentlemen left the District early in the year and I would ask you to approve of my action when you are asked to pass the accounts. There are several persons in the district who are eligible for personal membership. I would ask those who are in a position to do so to get them to join at the earliest opportunity.

There were three General meetings and one Committee meeting held during the year. At the General Meetings there was an average attendance of 15; at the Committee meeting 5 members were present.

13 Estates representing 9934 acres subscribed to the Vakil Fund. Prospect Estate joined towards the end of the year. 3 Estates resigned from the Fund namely, Mayfield, Glenvans and Periashola Estates. The first of these estates resignation took effect on March 15, the latter two on March 31. Another estate has since given notice. The total acreage representing resignations and provisional notice is 2,067.

As you see from the Balance Sheet, this Fund has a reserve of Rs. 1,315-13-9. consider, providing there are no more resignations that it will be possible to continue to employ our own Vakil for a cess of at least half the present one of 4 annas.

10 estates and 22 planters subscribed a sum of Rs. 500 to the Benevolent Fund as compared with a sum of Rs. 600 for the previous year. The usual list is on the table. May I appeal to those both absent and present to consider giving their support to this most deserving Fund.

The principal business of the year has been the Association's effort to press once more for the introduction of the Malabar Tenants' Improvement Act into the Gudalur Taluk. I understand that the Political Secretary will introduce a Bill in the Legislative Council during the year.

At the Bangalore meeting the Labour Department Control Committees were abolished. This step was decided on principally for reasons of economy. The Tea Advisory Committee was appointed to report on our Tea Experimental Station and to suggest a future policy. It has been suggested that our Station be affiliated with Ceylon but no definite decision was arrived at during the year.

With regard to our parent Association's finance, a resolution was passed at Bangalore ordaining that in future any credit standing to any account at the end of a year be carried forward to the succeeding year. This resolution will, in future, guard against the forming of unnecessarily large reserves.

The audited Revenue account and Balance Sheet is on the table.

Excess of income over expenditure is Rs. 78-14-1. Hence our credit balance lying in the Bank remains well over Rs. 2 000. I would again commend to your consideration the desirability of investing this money. Even if you only decide to place an amount on fixed deposit you will be getting some return for money which at the moment is lying idle. Our decision of a year ago to reduce the subscription to one anna, has not entailed any drawing on the reserves, and should no decision be made as to investing the reserves, a further cut in the cess may be considered. From previous expenditure I estimate that our reserve is sufficient to run the Association for two years.

If, Gentlemen, there are any questions arising about the accounts, I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability, after which I would ask you to be good enough to pass them.

I would like to express my thanks to our two Chairmen, Mr. Fowke and Mr. Pittock for the assistance and advice they have given me during the year and I would thank you all, Gentlemen, for the honour you have done me in asking me to be your Secretary for past two years.

I now place my resignation in your hands.'

The Chairman proposed that the Honorary Secretary's report be adopted by the meeting.

Carried unanimously.

The meeting approved payment of Rs. 10 to the Association Clerk for overtime in April.

Mr. G. W. Fulcher proposed and Mr. A. N. Scott Hart seconded that Mr. K. V. Gopalaiyer be elected auditor to the Association for the new year.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. G. W. Fulcher proposed and Mr. J. E. Hancock seconded that the subscription to the Association for the year 1931-32 be the same as last year viz. 1 anna per acre.

Carried unanimously.

Election of Office Bearers.—

The following gentlemen were elected to office for the year 1931-32 :

Chairman Mr. R. M. Nicolls

Vice-Chairman Mr. C. K. Pittock.

Committee { Mr. J. E. Bisset.

... .. { Mr. G. W. Fulcher.

Honorary Secretary Mr. A. L. Lang.

Bangalore Delegates and U.P.A.S.I. Mr. A. N. Scott Hart.

General Committee members { Mr. R. M. Nicolls.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

C. K. PITTOCK,
Chairman.

A. R. INNES,
Honorary Secretary.

* * *

**Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad
Planters' Association held at 10 a.m. on April 27, 1931, at the
Gudalur Rest-House**

Present :

Messrs. C. K. Pittock (*Chairman*), R. M. Nicolls, G. W. Fulcher, J. Upton Body, J. C. Osborne, N. Johnston, J. E. Hancock, A. L. Lang, J. E. Bisset, G. Bayzand, Stuart S. Light, A. N. Scott Hart, R. B. C. Arthur, C. O. Commin and A. R. Innes (*Honorary Secretary*)

The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

Read letter from R. W. Levett Esquire, regretting inability to attend the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

U.P.A.S.I. Budget Meeting.—Mr. G. W. Fulcher and Mr. Innes, the General Committee members, explained to the meeting the deliberations of the Budget meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. held at Coonoor on April 20.

Correspondence and other Competent Business—Read letter from the Nilgiri Planters' Association *re* Profession Tax. In this letter the Nilgiri Planters' Association deprecated the new Profession Tax which is to be levied by the District Board, and asked for support in bringing to the notice of the Government the injustice of this proposed tax. It was resolved by the meeting that the District Board members of the Association be asked to meet and prepare a Memorandum, protesting against the proposed Profession Tax. It was also resolved that the Association should take a legal opinion as to the legality of levying the Profession Tax under the New District Board's Act.

Read letter from the Planting Member *re* Water Tax

Mr. G. W. Fulcher proposed and Mr. R. M. Nicolls seconded the following resolution which was

Carried unanimously.

'This Association wish to record its appreciation of the long and efficient services rendered to U.P.A.S.I. by Mr. Waddington and to convey its best wishes to him and Mrs. Waddington in their retirement.'

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

C. K. PITTOCK,
Chairman

A. R. INNES,
Honorary Secretary,

MARKET REPORT

Messrs. Leslie & Anderson Ltd., London, write to us on the 23rd April, 1931, as follows :—

Coffee. At the extra auction held on 17th instant 3,785 bags were catalogued, including 1,017 East Indias. These met a good demand at firm rates, good marks of Mysore being well sought after, and high prices were paid. The HCK mark realized the following prices : —

49 Bags A 155-6, 30 bags B 121, 10 Bags Peaberry 150, 10 bags T 73-6.

Three public auctions have been held so far this week, when catalogues comprised 20,193 bags, made up of 11,470 Costa Ricas, 6,408 East Africans, 1,998 East Indias, and 317 Sundries. All attractive liquoring qualities continue to meet sustained support both on Home and Continental account, at very full prices. Medium grades steady but common sell slowly.

We quote :—

Costa Ricas, bold greenish 97 to 121-6, fine 136 to 158, second sizes 62-6 to 113, Peaberry 102 to 156 per cwt.

Kenyas, bold fair greyish 87 to 92, good 117-6, second sizes 74 to 86, smalls 63-6 to 72-6, Peaberry 104 per cwt. East Indias, Mysore bold greenish 110 to 118, second sizes 90, smalls 62, Peaberry 115-6 to 129 per cwt.

Glenvans (Nilgiri) bold fine greenish O's 151, A's 116, Peaberry 145-6, Coorgs, bold greyish 85-6 to 97-6, second sizes 69-6 to 76-6, Peaberry 86 to 94-6.

A small lot of 225 bags Santos were withdrawn at 40 per cwt. landed terms.

We shall have another extra auction when further East Indias will be offered, tomorrow.

Superior Santos 36, Rio No. 1. 23-6 per cwt. C and F.

Tea. At the first auction held this week on 20th instant 28,331 chests Indians were catalogued. Fair competition was evidenced, but while low teas displayed a weaker tendency, others realized steady rates.

At the second auction yesterday further 27,128 chests were catalogued. Good to fine qualities attracted attention and compared with Monday last fetched firm rates : medium tea steady but low medium and common easier. Commonest went decidedly against the seller.

Rubber. We enclose Messrs. G. W. Y. & Co's monthly report dated 22nd April, 1931.

CALICUT,
15th May, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
PEIRCE, LESLIE & CO. LTD.

*P. S.—*The following information has been received through our London Office regarding Cardamoms :—

'Very little interest is being shown and only small sales are reported. Bold pale bleached Indians have been sold at 5/2d., medium size splits at 2/6d and Ceylon Malabars at 1/9d per lb. ex wharf.'

'To arrive Indian seeds have been sold at 2/3d. per lb. c.i.f. for April/May shipment; Alleppey Greens are nominal at 1/6½d per lb. c.i.f.'

PEIRCE, LESLIE & CO., LTD.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending April 16, 1931	January 1 to April 16, 1931	January 1 to April 16, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, April 16, and April 23, 1931, respectively)			s. d.	N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
(a) Anamallais—				S. India.	a 1 0·04	0 11·99	1 2·62
Periakaramalai	91	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)		Ceylon...	b 1 3·71	1 1·02	c 1 2·83
Do.	237	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)		Java ...	1 6·64	1 4·29	1 6·95
Gajam Mudi	89	1 10 (23)		Sumatra	0 7·67	0 9·15	0 11·01
Thay Mudi	110	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)		Nyassaland.	0 6·74	0 8·28	0 9·08
Anai Mudi	144	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)		Total...	d 1 1·23	e 1 0·65	f 1 3·09
Nalla Mudi	60	1 8 (23)					
Thay Mudi	226	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Gajam Mudi	144	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Thoni Mudi	253	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Nalla Mudi	176	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Mukottu Mudi	151	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
(b) Central Travancore—							
Bon Ami	110	1 9 (23)		N. India	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Stagbrook	87	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)		S. India	0 11·77	0 11·98	1 2·64
Pattumalay	100	1 7 (23)		Ceylon ...	g 1 3·66	h 1 1·28	i 1 2·94
Carady Goody	100	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)		Java ...	1 6·89	1 4·52	1 7·14
Mount	90	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)		Sumatra	0 7·25	0 8·31	0 9·72
Do.	87	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)		Nyassaland.	0 8·25	0 9·08	0 11·01
Kuduwa Karnum	170	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)		Total ...	j 1 1·62	k 1 0·73	l 1 3·22
Thengakhal	97	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Do.	95	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Cheenthalaar	119	1 4 (23)					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Upp. Surianalle	89	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Periavurrai	95	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Yellapatty	40	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Do.	62	2 0 (23)					
Lockhart	55	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Gundumallay	104	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Thenmallay	121	1 10 (16)					
Pullivassal	56	1 10 (16)					
Nettigudi	98	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Surianalle	97	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Lockhart	91	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
(d) Nilgiris—							
Pykara Falls	35	2 6 (23)					
Prospect	48	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					
Do.	121	2 2 (23)					
Devabetta	35	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Parkside	70	2 0 (16)					
Nonsuch	132	1 11 (23)					
Chamraj	67	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Parkside	85	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Ibex Lodge	102	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Kil-Kotagiri	58	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Curzon	64	1 9 (23)					
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad—							
Seaforth	114	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ (23)					
Rousdon Mullai	31	1 4 (23)					
Seaforth	88	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16)					

N.R.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 6,294	b 82,688	c 100,197
d 93,722	e 1,245,989	f 1,232,274
g 8,800	h 91,488	i 104,078
j 102,853	k 1,348,842	l 1,285,005

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, May 19, 1931, was 3 $\frac{5}{8}$ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 16, 1931; were 86,037 tons, a decrease of 626 tons on May 9, 1931, inventory

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 16, 1931, were 54,170 tons, an increase of 1,305 tons on May 9, 1931, inventory.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market—(Continued)

(C) COFFEE—

SPECIAL CABLE

LONDON 'A' QUALITY

MAY 20, 1931. NO QUOTATIONS RECEIVED

London prices (Seven days ending April 22 and 29, 1931, respectively).

District	Bags	s.	d.	Grades	Seven days ending
<i>Anamallais—</i>					
Valparai	248	96	6	1, 2, 3, PB and T	April 29
Naduar	114	85	5	Do.	Do.
Do.	76	85	2	1, 2, 3 and T	Do.
<i>Coorg—</i>					
Mangles Coovercally.	74	92	11	1, 2, PB and T	April 29
Arbutnott Yemmi-goondi	424	87	8	Do.	Do.
Mangles Hallery	72	86	5	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
Chisholms Eldorado.	192	86	0	1, 2, PB and T	Do.
Binnys Wudderhully.	74	84	7	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
„ Sidapur	103	82	0	Do.	Do.
Huvinakadu	134	80	0	1, 2 and PB	Do.
HTH	27	76	0	1, 2, 3, PB and T	April 22
<i>Mysore—</i>					
HC. K	99	136	2	1, 2, PB and T	April 22
Bedaguli	94	133	1	1, 2, 3 and T	Do.
Kulhutty WD.	107	118	2	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
Cannon MC.	134	115	0	Do.	April 29
„ BC.	264	114	0	Do.	April 22
Olivers K.	107	107	11	Do.	April 29
Pandravali	49	105	6	1, 2 and PB	Do.
Ubban Mockett	265	100	4	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
<i>Nelliampathies—</i>					
Wallia Warrum	34	90	0	1, 2, PB and T	April 29
Palagapandy Inv. 5	42	82	0	Do.	April 22
Seetagundi	172	79	4	1, 2, 3, PB and T	April 29
<i>Nilgiris—</i>					
C. St. J. Mailoor	131	115	4	1, 2, PB and T	April 29
Hallacarry	78	113	0	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
Goodannie	39	81	1	1, 2, PB and T	Do.
<i>Shevaroys—</i>					
Waverley	51	111	9	1, 2 and PB	April 29
Brooklands	54	110	5	1, 2, PB and T	Do.
Moganaad	53	99	9	Do.	Do.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, May 21, 1931

Planting.—Steady marking down of share values has continued. In *Rubbers* there is no sign of improvement; in *Teas*, the undertone has become slightly more cheerful.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 6	- 1s.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 10 6	- 2s. 6d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 7 0	- 6d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	- 3d.
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	-
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 7½	- 3d.
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 5 0	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	-
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 11 6	-
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 12 1½	- 1s. 7½d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	...	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	27½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	6
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	3
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	14½
Peria Karamala's Rs. 15	...	30
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	20
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1½
Periyars Rs. 10	...	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	...	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	...	82½
Vellamala's (Rs. 15)	...	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the Auction of the 12th May totalled 2,117,236 lbs. The market for nearly all descriptions must be quoted dearer. NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA. Quality was barely maintained. Broken grades met with fair support but quotations for leaf grades followed the course of quality. HIGH GROWN. Quality in most cases showed a decline. Broken Orange Pekoes occasionally met a weaker market. Leaf grades however and especially Orange Pekoes were in demand and realized somewhat enhanced rates. MEDIUM GROWN. All grades met with active enquiry. Brokens were wanted at 2 to 4 cents advance while Orange Pekoes realized anything from 5 to 10 cents more. LOW GROWN. There was keen and active bidding for all well made black leaf teas. Broken grades and Pekoes were generally 4 to 6 cents dearer while the relative Orange Pekoes met with such keen competition that an all round advance of 10 to 12 cents was established. Fannings and Dusts sold without quotable change.

South Indian Teas in Auction of April 28 and May 5, 1931, respectively, obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average	Date
Chittavurrai	10,214	99	April 28
Kanniamallay	19,953	89	May 5
Warwick	3,610	43	April 28
Karandy Valley	6,387	42	May 5
E.K.	1,664	35	do.
Belford	3,518	28	do.

RUBBER.—About 159 tons were offered at the Auction held on May 7, 1931. There was an improvement in the market and nearly all grades showed an advance though buying was not general. Standards were in very small supply. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet realized 12½ cents showing an advance of one cent on last week's prices. Fair Quality Sheet was in good demand and showed a similar advance while Off quality Sheet improved ¼ cent. Inferior quality Sheet was about steady at last rates. Contract Crepe of which there was only a small quantity available was a very fair market at 12½ cents showing an improvement of ¼ of a cent on previous rates. Off and Mottled sorts improved one cent and ½ of a cent respectively. There was a good demand for all grades of Scrap, Crepe and better sorts were ¼ of a cent dearer while inferior sorts were about half a cent dearer. Scraps showed very little change with the exception of inferior sorts which were about a ¼ cent up on previous rates.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

May 3, 1931 to May 16, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor	1·10	1·55	2·65
2. Kalthuritty.	2·00	...	2·00	25. Kotagiri	0·08	2·51	2·59
3. Kallar Edge.	2·79	1·71	4·50	26. Ootacamund	1·18	3·31	4·49
4. Koney	...	7·04	7·04	27. Yercaud	0·54	3·75	4·29
5. Pattanapura.	1·03	12·21	13·24	28. Mango Range	...	...	...
6. M'kayam ...	...	...	...	29. Devala	0·34	...	0·34
6a Peravanthan.	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	1·95	...	1·95
7. Peermade ...	...	...	7·18	31. CALICUR	0·83	0·67	1·50
8. Twyford ...	...	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi	1·85	9·58	11·43
9. V'periyar ...	0·14	7·16	7·30	33. Vayitri	2·14	4·37	6·51
10. Kalaar ...	1·81	5·38	7·19	34. Manantoddi	2·05	3·42	5·47
11. Chittuvurrai	0·80	7·99	8·79	35. Billigiris	0·67	3·88	4·55
12. Bodr'KANUR	0·14	2·03	2·17	36. Sidapur	...	...	7·45
13. COCHIN	2·26	4·68	6·94	37. Ghatted Hulla	2·25	4·88	7·13
14. Mooply ...	1·40	2·03	3·43	38. Pollibetta	...	4·85	4·85
15. Pachaimalai.	0·06	4·63	4·69	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	0·28	2·93	3·21	40. Saklaspur	...	...	...
17. POLLACHIK	...	0·97	0·97	41. Kadamanie	0·58	4·31	4·89
18. Nell'pathy...	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur...	...	0·99	0·99
19. Karapara ...	0·02	3·05	3·07	43. Merthisubgey.	2·86	10·15	13·01
20. Pullengode ..	...	6·00	6·00	44. Kelagur	0·61	2·17	2·78
21. Nilambur ...	0·82	2·74	3·56	45. Durgabettia.	0·32	6·54	6·86
22. Naduvattam	1·58	2·40	3·98	46. MANGALORE	1·34	4·00	5·34
23. Nilgiri Peak	0·55	...	0·55	47. MADRAS	1·68	1·51	3·19

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously. (i.e., from April 1, 1931).



H. WADDINGTON
LATE SECRETARY, U.P.A.S.I. 1919-1931.

Born : 1869, Southampton. Educated there and commenced business career in Fire Insurance office in London. Landed in Madras 6th September, 1889, became Coffee Planter in Wynnaad, Tea Planter 1893, Deputy Manager of Walker's Estates and Wynnaad Tea Company 1896, V. A. for Arbuthnot & Co., Agency.

Married in 1901.

Rubber Planter in 1912, Pullengode. Vice-Chairman, U.P.A.S.I. 1915. Association re-organized in 1919 and appointed in dual capacity of Secretary and Director of Labour Department.

Held post as Secretary of U.P.A.S.I. and Secretary of Chamber of Commerce in Madras from 1924 till retirement in May, 1931.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 12]

June 6, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE retirement of Mr. Hal Waddington or 'Waddy' as he was affectionately known to his numerous friends throughout South India, creates a gap in the ranks of the U.P.A.S.I. which will be difficult *Mr. H. Waddington,—Vale!* to fill. No longer will he be seen in his accustomed place at the Annual Meetings in Bangalore, and, with his retirement, the U.P.A.S.I. has lost one of its best known figures.

Mr. Waddington has had a long and honourable career in the East, and his intimate knowledge of Plauters and all things connected with planting could hardly be surpassed. From the few details of his career printed on the frontispiece, it will be seen that he had had practical experience in tea, coffee and rubber, but his knowledge did not stop there.

Waddy was an active worker and was never happier than when he was busily engaged on some special phase of work which demanded a special line of thought and concentration.

Forty-two years in the East is a long time, and Mr. Waddington must have noticed many changes since he landed in Madras from that square rigged 'Steamer' the B.I. 'Navarino' in 1889.

It is interesting to record that a fellow-passenger of his on that occasion was Capt. Ronald Ross who is now so well known as Sir Ronald Ross, Director-in-Chief of the Ross Institute, whose epoch-making discovery of the transmission of malaria to human beings through the bite of a mosquito, revolutionized medical science and living conditions throughout the tropics.

Starting life in the Wynnaad as a coffee planter, Mr. Waddington saw many thousands of acres of coffee and cinchona eventually replaced by tea, and, in the early Nineties, there was a great depression in price of all these products, the best paying at that time was pepper, and over 100 tons per annum were produced from the Estates with which he was connected

Mr. Waddington recalls that in 1893 tea planting was commenced in the Wynnaad, and at the present time there is about half the acreage under tea as compared with that under coffee in the early Eighties.

Variety was the charm of the planting life to Mr. Waddington in those days, and until the advent of the motor car, about 1906, planting held a romance all of its own for him; there was much truth in the saying 'The life of a coffee planter is that of a gentleman, that of a tea planter a slave'.

Well, times have altered; but there are no doubt many planters, and amongst them perhaps we may include Mr. Waddington, who refer back to those times as the good old days before complicated accounts and many returns became necessary and when means of transport were confined to riding, driving, bullock cart or shank's mare, before the motor car dissipated distance.

After 27 years of this interesting and varied life, Mr. Waddington took up administrative work with the U.P.A.S.I and continued with much success and efficiency in this line for another fifteen years till his retirement.

Throughout his lengthy stay in the East, Waddy, during a spell of nearly 42 years in India, was absent on leave for five times only or 30 months in all, so he has deserved well of the U.P.A.S.I. and no one will grudge him his well earned rest and, we hope, a comfortable and very happy life at home for many years to come.

We cannot conclude this short epitome of his career—in fact, it would not be fitting to do so—without mention of Mrs. Waddington who is almost as well known and popular a figure as her husband in planting and other circles. Her boundless energy and enthusiasm for all kinds of sport have indeed been a source of admiration to all who knew her, and it is particularly appropriate that in her last year in Madras, she should have gained two Tennis Championship titles of the Madras Cricket Club, Chepauk—the Ladies' Handicap Singles and the Ladies' Handicap Doubles

Mr. and Mrs. Waddington sailed from Colombo on June 4, per s.s. 'Shropshire' and there we will leave them, with memories of a very genial personality and one whose help and advice have always been at the disposal of all who cared to ask for it.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

STORM IN A COFFEE CUP.

According to the *Anglo-Brazilian Chronicle* Rio looked strange on February 2nd, as in the more important parts of the City all the cafés were shut, as a protest against the Authorities' Decree that the price of little cups of coffee should be 100 reis instead of 200 reis (1,000 reis = 4d. or less, but even at 5d., 200 reis only equals a penny). The price of coffee was less than half what it was; sugar 'tambien'; therefore the price should be reduced, was the verdict of the authorities.

The 'Centro dos Proprietarios de Café' convened an extraordinary meeting, resulting in a memorial being addressed to the Interventor to the effect that in spite of coffee and sugar being cheaper, many of their establishments were so luxuriously fitted up, that with the price of 100 reis they would be unable to carry on.

Last Monday a commission waited on Sr. Bergamini in his Cabinet. The Interventor of the Federal District intimated that he was seeking to conciliate the interests of the café proprietors and the public. There was therefore no doubt that the question would receive all due consideration. It was necessary, however, that the cafés be re-opened, and the cup of coffee sold at the price decreed by the Government, until a resolution to the contrary had been taken.

This having been decided on, His Excellency appointed a representative of the Ministry of Labour, and the 'Centro dos Proprietarios de Café' appointed their representative, in order to study the question, and draw up a report as to whether or not it was possible to sell a cup of coffee at 100 reis. Should the investigation show that this price is not possible, the cup of coffee at 100 reis will be withdrawn from the 'tabella.'

SCHEME FOR DISPOSAL OF BUDWOOD

1. Budwood supplied to the Station by Estates should be for testing purposes only.
2. Trees budded up from such material shall not be cut for the supply of budwood.
3. Every clone on the Station should be represented by a few plants in a Budwood Nursery, and should, for any reason, the Estate of origin require small quantities of budwood from their clone, material can be cut from these plants. The Budwood Nursery however should not be looked on as a source of supply of the large quantities of budwood frequently required for new clearings. It is merely a reserve in case the original mother tree or supplies of budwood on the estate be lost.
4. Except under the circumstances mentioned under No. 3 no budwood shall be supplied by the Station to any estates whatsoever. Reports on the yields of tapped budded plants will be published from time to time and it is the concern of the estate of origin of any promising clone to note these records and provide for the multiplication of material from their own clones.

As a corollary to No. 4 all estates supplying budwood to the Station should be asked to undertake to sell to any other U.P.A.S.I. Estate budwood from their clones should such be required. This arrangement will avoid commercial dealings on the part of the Station, the estates of origin of good clones will benefit from their trees, and at the same time supplies of material from promising local clones will be available by purchase for all estates in South India.

5. In the event of any estate refusing to sell budwood under these conditions the Station should be empowered to supply to estates generally small quantities of this budwood from their nursery after the clone is considered fully tested, i.e., after two years' tapping. The price charged for such material to be worked out according to the yield of the clone when compared with previously-known clones.

R. A. TAYLOR.

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FRUIT JUICE—DIRECT FROM THE TROPICS

If Pineapples, why not Bananas?

According to a pamphlet on the subject, sent by Cosmic Ray Products, 107, Ebury St., London, S.W. 1, the bacteria that does so much harm in fruit and vegetable juices can now be destroyed.

In the year 1925, Mr. Wincenty Matzka, a well-known Polish chemist and inventor, who was living in London at the time, made a discovery which, it is claimed, is of the greatest benefit to humanity. He found that when fruit or vegetable juices are passed slowly between different metals, set closely to one another, by a special thermo-coupling arrangement, a reaction between these metals is set up which has the effect of destroying the bacteria of fermentation, putrefaction and disease. These juices may then be kept in this natural form for an indefinite period, and can be transported. No added preservative is required.

It was first thought that the reaction described above was of an electrical nature only, but further study on the part of the discoverer and of American and German scientists, has indicated the existence of a natural force, previously unknown, which was claimed as the Oligo-Dynamic action of Metals, supposed to be the action by which noble metals act as 'Cosmic Ray' condensers. The metals used cannot be attacked by fruit juices, consequently no metallic taste is found in the latter.

The first cost of a 'Matzka' System installation is very moderate, and the cost of operating per gallon is so low as to be almost negligible, as the passage of the liquid through the apparatus, occupying about 6 minutes, is affected by gravity.

Great things are looked for with the help of the process from pineapples.

There are probably many people who do not know much about the amazing health value of fruit, and who would be surprised to hear that pineapples could be considered as anything more than a very delicious and rather extravagant luxury. The truth is that the curative properties of pineapple are marvellous, and how infinitely more palatable than some obnoxious drug which one's instinct revolts against and is only taken under strong protest.

Pineapple juice is a valuable antiseptic, especially useful in all cases of toxic poisoning. In addition to cleansing and purifying, it is also a restorative of nervous energy and builds up tissue. Sufferers from tonsilitis should squeeze the juice from a thick slice of the fruit, take half as a gargle, and drink the remaining quantity as the most delicious and health-giving cocktail in the world.

We have always considered that bananas could be made to yield an attractive juice, provided the juice can be kept free of ferments, etc., leaving the 'cake' for consumption by humans or stock. Could such a thing be done by the Matzka process?—*Tropical Life*.

THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN MAKE GOOD COFFEE

Many correspondents who have written letters in *The Times* in praise of coffee, are agreed upon one thing. Each thinks his own coffee perfect and every one else's disgusting. In all else disagreement riots.

There is only one way to make coffee; half a dozen of the writers have said so, and half a dozen only one ways have been laid down (says *The Times* in a leading article). Coffee must never be kept in a tin: the wise housewife will pop it in a tin herself the moment it arrives. Coffee in the making must never touch metal: coffee is best made in silver, aluminium, brass, copper. Coffee must never be allowed to boil: the fault with most English coffee is that the water is not boiling. Coffee berries are roasted too much: coffee berries are roasted too little. Coffee is made too weak: coffee is made too strong. Some are for the simplest way of making coffee: and others would have such a to-do about it that, like the French wit who said that he feared death less than Drelincourt's 'Defence against the fears of death,' the ordinary man may feel that he would rather drink what slush he can get than face all that bother.

Only one chance of disagreement seems to have been missed. All take it for granted that there must be sugar in the coffee. No one appears to be aware that there are coffee lovers to whom sugar in coffee is as offensive as raw onions with cheese.

About this general disagreement there is nothing remarkable. Every sloppy mess that is served up, claims to be the only real curry in the country. And every one knows that the only man in the world who can make a salad is himself. With tact and an adroit hint of doctor's orders, a guest may avoid the coffee, the curry, the salad; but the disagreement would be fatal to Dr. Jacks's proposed coffee-serving company. Before they had bought an ounce of berries (from Kenya? from Mocha? from Brazil?) the Directors would have ceased to be on speaking terms.

Nevertheless, the coffee made by each of our correspondents (and by many others who have not written to tell us so) being perfect, there must be a strong coffee-public in England.

Some admire its medicinal properties. Coffee, we read, is good for the brain. Coffee, with lots of sugar, is good for the foot-baller. Coffee is digestive, it is disinfectant, it is an antidote to nicotine poisoning. It is also a very good drink. It is good, hot with milk at breakfast, hot without milk after luncheon and dinner, cold—ice cold—of a summer afternoon.

It can be good out of a humble crock, out of a tall silver pot, out of a little metal box all gadgets, out of the terrifying great engines that make by steam the *espresso* beloved of Italy.

It can be good English, good French, good German or Austrian, good Turkish.

And it can be very bad in all these ways. It can be very good in a tiny café in Greece or in Sicily, and it can be very bad indeed at a shilling a cup at a smart London hotel or night club, where the idea always seems to be that people want not to drink it, but to be like Pope's fair Zephalinda and 'O'er cold coffee trifle with the spoon.'

It is a good thing at such places to send the coffee back and back again until it is brought too hot to drink and is therefore just about to be drinkable. And that is the line, the high line, to take with all coffee, if we are to remove the national reproach of buying the best coffee and making the worst. It is a line which promises to be more readily taken now that the Prince of Wales's words have brought the subject to the public notice, and our correspondence columns have shown, how keen is the interest in it.

We cannot well tell our hostess that her coffee is dishwater; but we can be merciless at restaurants, and satisfied at home only with what we think the best.

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COFFEE

We reproduce below two cuttings from London papers sent us by a correspondent, which we hope will be of interest to Coffee planters.

IN PRAISE OF COFFEE

DR. L. P. JACKS

The correspondence in your columns about coffee is of great interest to the social student as throwing light on a phase of human incompetence which, though not the most disastrous form of that many-sided phenomenon, is certainly a typical specimen of it. The universe has no diviner drink for its weary inhabitants than good coffee, unless exception be made for good wine. But where can you get it in this benighted land? In private houses very rarely. In public ones hardly ever. Millions have never tasted it.

Let anyone who doubts these statements make the experiment of purchasing 'a cup of coffee' in a railway restaurant or dining car, in an average hotel, or in one of the innumerable centres of liquid refreshment where cups and saucers deck the board and are mysteriously washed up in the background. He will find that he gets for his money a disgusting decoction, made heaven knows how and of what, which can only be described as an abomination in the sight of the Lord. *Corruptio optimi pessima*. A cupful of liquid dipped out of the Witches' Cauldron would be almost as appetizing. No wonder that 'we are not a nation of coffee drinkers,' as the Prince of Wales so politely informed the Brazilians the other day. Who that has ever swallowed a mouthful of this stuff would not forswear 'coffee' for the rest of his mortal pilgrimage?

But to what purpose is all this blessing and cursing if nothing is *done*? Here is a social evil which is not to be overcome by explosions of eloquence, as many believe somewhat fondly that greater evils can be. The time for *action* has arrived. Let a small company, therefore, be forthwith set on foot, equipped with a sufficient apparatus of stationary and movable stalls, and with a competent *personnel* or skilled coffee-makers trained for the job by an expert; said stalls and *personnel* to find their pitches in railway and other termini, and in places of resort and passage where the somnolent go forth to their labours in the early hours and the weary return in the late ones. Let cleanliness and high quality be the watchwords faithfully acted up to; let the goods sold be as irreproachable as Caesar's wife.

As for the wicked purveyors of the questionable liquid above alluded to, I predict their disappearance like 'ghosts from an enchanter fleeing'; to which may be added the removal of a small, but significant, disgrace to human workmanship; while the poor planters of Kenya would no longer be haunted by the humiliating knowledge that the noble product of their labours will be ground into liquid mud on arrival in England. And who knows how far the example might reach?

BRAZILIAN COFFEE TAX AGREEMENT

(DECREE NOW IN FORCE)

From our Correspondent

SAO PAULO, April 28, 1931

A decree was signed yesterday approving the Coffee Convention whereby the States of Sao Paulo, Minas Geraes, Rio de Janeiro, Espirito

Santo, and Parana agree for a period of four years to the creation of an export tax of 10s. on each sack of coffee of 60 kilos produced in the above-mentioned territories.

This tax is over and above the existing taxes. Collection will be effected at the sight rate on London on the day of embarkation. The decree comes into force from to-day.

Another telegram states that the main points of the decree agreed at the Coffee States Conference are as follows :—The new tax of 10s. a bag will be subject to reduction or suppression by a majority vote of the Coffee States Council or increase by proposal of the States Council and approbation by the States interested. The tax is to be automatically suppressed at the end of four years. The proceeds of the tax are to be solely administered by an autonomous Coffee States Council, and deposited daily in the banks specially designated. *The proceeds are to be used for the purchase and destruction of the excesses of production and present stocks, except 100,000 bags kept annually for Coffee Institute propaganda in new markets.*

The Autonomous Council is to consist of representatives of the States, also a representative of the Federal Government, with powers to elaborate regulations, study tariff questions, advocate rail and steamer freight reductions and to publish weekly details of the tax collected, balances at bank, and amount of coffee purchased, destroyed, or to be destroyed.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA
Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the United Planters' Association
of Southern India held at the Offices of the Association, Madras, on Monday,
May 25, 1931, at 10-30 o'clock in the forenoon.

PRESENT :

Mr. S. H. Dennis	... <i>In the Chair.</i>
Mr. H. Waddington	... <i>Secretary.</i>

And the following

<i>Associations</i>	<i>Represented by</i>
Anamalais	... Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O.B.E., V.D.
C. Travancore	... Mr. E. L. Hill.
Coorg	... Mr. H. J. Maitland Jones.
Kanan Devans	... Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O.B.E., V.D.
Mysore	... Mr. S. H. Dennis.
Mundakayam	... Mr. G. Gompertz.
Nelliampathies	... Mr. K. V. Dharmaraj.
Nilgiri-Wynaad	... Mr. H. J. Maitland Jones.
Shevaroys	... Mr. G. Gompertz.
West Coast	... Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O.B.E., V.D.
Wynaad	... Mr. E. L. Hill.

Chairman.—The Kanan Devan Planters' Association proposed and the Shevaroy Planters' Association seconded that Mr. S.H. Dennis take the Chair.

Notice of Meeting.—By order of the chairman the secretary read the notice convening the Meeting.

Resolution.—The Mysore Planters' Association proposed and the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association seconded the following resolution :—

' Resolved that a pension of Rs. 500 per month be paid to Mr. H. Waddington for his life time and that the payment thereof should be secured by a charge on the immovable properties of the Association.'

Amendment.—The Anamalai Planters' Association moved and the Mundakayam Planters' Association seconded the following amendment:—

'That Mr. Waddington be granted a pension of Rs. 500 per mensem for his life time, and that for this, an annuity should be bought out of reserve funds and that the U.P.A.S.I. contribution to Mr. Waddington's Provident Fund plus its accrued interest should be part of the annuity purchase price.'

The amendment being put to the meeting, two Associations voted in favour of the amendment and nine against it; the Chairman declared the amendment lost and then put the original Resolution which was carried, 9 voting for and 2 against.

Under instruction of the Chairman, the Secretary read the draft Agreement between the Association and Mr. H. Waddington with reference to his pension.

The Nelliampathy Planters' Association moved a vote of thanks to the Chair which was seconded by the Shevaroy Planters' Association and carried.

The Chairman expressed the best wishes of the Meeting to Mr. H. Waddington on his retirement, and declared the meeting closed.

H. WADDINGTON,
Secretary.

* * *

The following Cups belonging to the U.P.A.S.C. have been received at Head Quarters and are being put into the Mercantile Bank, Madras, for safe custody, pending revival of the Club:—

Tennis Inter-District challenge cup
Tennis Men's Singles challenge cup
Ladies' Golf Singles challenge cup

* * *

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION

Owing to the death of Mr. K. Ananthakrishna Pillai, Tenkasi agent, the Tenkasi agency is temporarily closed till appointment of a successor.

PALAMCOTTAH, A. G. A. DUNNING,
May 22, 1931. Superintendent.

* * * * *

DELHI COMMEMORATION STAMPS

The above stamps are not legal on Pro-notes etc., as per Post Office Circular.

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DISTRICT NOTES

mysore

The Minutes of the Sixty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Mysore Planters' Association, (Incorporated) held at the Kadur Club, Chickmagalur, at 10-30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 1931.

Present:

Messrs. E. W. Fowke, *Chairman*, J. H. Alexander, J. Backhouse, Benson, S. H. Dennis, M. D'Souza, H. H. English, J. E. Ferrers, F. J. Fowke, G. V. R. Frend, L. Garrett, O. Garrett, C. H. Godfrey, A. L. Hill, C. S. Iron, L. P. Kent, R. C. Lake, A. Middleton, L. Newcome, M. Gilbart Smith, W. G. Stonehouse, H. Watson, E. H. Young, and C. C. Couchman, *Secretary.*

Visitors :

Messrs. W. W. Mayne, J. S. H. Morgan, and P. Raymond.
The Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.

The Report of the Executive Committee for the period 1-12 1930 to 31-3-1931—

Meetings.—One Quarterly General Meeting and two Extraordinary General Meetings were held.

References.—17 references were made to the Committee, all of which have been dealt with.

Government Taxes.—Your Committee considered a suggestion that this Association do approach Government with a view to obtaining a part remission of Land Taxes on account of the depressed state of the Industries. It was decided to take no steps in the matter.

Sale of Mysore Coffee in London.—The Mysore Government invited Heads of Departments and businessmen in the State to take full advantage of the Office of the Trade Commissioner for Mysore in London. Your Committee therefore approached Government with the request that the Trade Commissioner be asked whether he could do anything to further the sales of Mysore Coffee in London. Government have asked the Trade Commissioner for a report in the matter.

Buildings.—The depreciation of Buildings was left to the discretion of the Committee. It was decided to depreciate all Buildings at 2½ per cent. This has been done.

Suspension of Benefits from Members.—Your Committee took up the above matter with the U.P.A.S.I., who took further legal advice. This opinion has convinced your Committee that in the event of any Member filing a suit for damages as a result of the suspension from benefits the suit would not stand the slightest chance of success, and would not be arguable.

(Sd.) E. W. FOWKE, *Chairman.*

(Sd.) R. C. LAKE, *Member, S. Mysore.*

(Sd.) H. BROWNE, *Member, N. Mysore.*

Report of the Member of the U.P.A.S.I. General Committee and Delegates to the Extraordinary General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I.—Messrs. Fowke and Hill gave an account of the U.P.A.S.I. General Committee and the Extraordinary General Meetings. The Chairman thanked Mr. Hill for having represented the Association.

Scheme for the better marketing of Coffee in India.—The Chairman explained that since the date of the Agenda the report of the Sub-Committee constituted to consider the above had been received and asked the permission of the Meeting for the subject to be discussed.

Mr. Newcome explained that the Sub-Committee appointed had drawn up a scheme for the better marketing of coffee in India and had thereby completed its task. The report, together with the notes and remarks thereon, had been circulated to all Members.

The success of the scheme depended upon all coffee estates joining, and Messrs. The Imperial Chemicals to work it. He emphasised the fact that the scheme was not out to antagonize any coffee interests and that it must result in a general improvement in the state of the industry.

Immediately the scheme became adopted by all concerned and funds were available arrangements would be made for the erection of the factory and the launching of the Propaganda Campaign.

The Sub-Committee then invited questions.

The Chairman enquired whether it would not be possible to make the proposed Coffee Growers' Association an united coffee growers' association. Mr. Iron replied that, at present, there was not time to consult all Districts, but that they would not be left out next year. It was necessary to make the organization first and then invite others to join.

The Chairman then asked whether Indian planters of Coorg and Mysore had agreed. Mr. Iron replied that the proposition would be put before them immediately after the Meeting. It was proposed to have some Indian Planters on the Governing Body.

Mr. Newcome then remarked that much discussion of minor points must follow, for the present it was necessary to ascertain whether this Association approved of the Report under discussion; he therefore moved the following resolutions:—

Proposed by Mr. Newcome and seconded by Mr. Hill:

'That this Association adopts the proposals embodied in the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Coorg and Mysore Planters' Associations to devise a scheme for the better marketing of coffee in India, and for forming a coffee growers' association.' *Carried unanimously.*

Proposed by Mr. Newcome and seconded by Mr. Hill:

'That this Association elects two Members to a Committee to take the necessary steps to form a coffee growers' association and to negotiate an agreement with the Imperial Chemical Industries.' *Carried unanimously.*

Messrs. Newcome and Hill were then unanimously elected as representatives of this Association on the Committee to negotiate an agreement with Messrs. The Imperial Chemicals.

The Chairman thanked the Members of the Sub-Committee for all they had done in the matter, and the Coorg Members for having attended the Meeting.

Accounts.—The Chairman explained that these had not been received from the Auditors. The matter was therefore deferred to the next Meeting.

Budget 1931-1932.—The Secretary explained the proposed Budget, a copy of which was given each Member, the main alteration being a reduction of 33 per cent. in Association subscriptions.

The Budget was put to the Meeting and adopted.

Election of the Member of the Kadur District Board.—In view of the resignation of Mr. Oliver, absent on Home leave, it was necessary to elect a Member in his place. Mr. Watson was elected, and kindly agree to represent the Association for one year.

Postal arrangements.—The Chairman then introduced Mr. Scott O'Connor, Superintendent of Posts in Mysore, and explained that he had kindly attended the Meeting to discuss and consider any suggestions regarding the Postal arrangements in Mysore.

The delay in carrying Mails from the Coast to Planting areas in the State was raised by several Members. Mr. Scott O'Connor replied that the matter was under consideration and that he hoped to be able to announce an improvement in a month's time.

The Chairman then thanked the Superintendent of Posts for having attended the Meeting. (Applause.)

Hassan Goods Shed.—Mr. Hill spoke on this subject and proposed the following Resolutions, seconded by Mr. Young :—

'That all decisions concerning the Hassan Goods Shed come to since the Resolution of the Association passed on December 5, 1929, to the one immediately prior to the Resolution of the Association passed on December 18, 1930, inclusive, be and are hereby rescinded.' *Carried.*

'That the present Forwarding Agent's agreement be terminated by the Secretary immediately. *Carried.*

'That the Active Member of the Executive Committee for South Mysore be and is hereby deputed to engage V. Maduay of Hassan as Forwarding Agent if possible, or failing him, another person other than the present Agent, and to draw up an agreement with the person so engaged.' *Lost.*

The following amendment proposed by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Godfrey was put to the Meeting :—

'That the Committee Member for South Mysore be empowered to engage a new Forwarding Agent for the Hassan Goods Shed on the best terms possible.' *Carried.*

Curing charges.—Mr. English referred to the depression through which the industry was now passing and said that he considered the Association should approach the curing firms with a view to obtaining a reduction in curing charges. Several other Members endorsed this opinion, and the following Resolution by Mr. English, seconded by Mr. Newcome, was put to the Meeting :—

'That in view of the present world-wide depression in prices and wages this Association is of opinion that the cost of curing should be substantially reduced and that all Curing Firms be approached in the matter. *Carried Unanimously.*

Election of a Member of the Representative Assembly.—The Chairman explained that in view of the resignation of Mr. Rutherford, from this body it was necessary to elect a Member in his place.

The matter was put to the vote, and Mr. Newcome was elected.

Election of Office-bearers, 1931-1932.—

Chairman. Mr. E. W. Fowke.

Committee	N. Mysore	{ Active.	Mr. L. Garrett.
	Bababoodans	{ In-waiting.	Mr. G. V. R. Freud.
	S Mysore	{ Active.	Mr. H. H. English
		{ In-waiting.	Mr. S. H. Dennis.
		{ Active.	Mr. E. H. Young.
		{ In-waiting.	Mr. R. C. Lake.

Election of U.P.A.S.I. Representatives. Messrs. L. Newcome and A. L. Hill were elected.

Election of Sanderson Memorial Ward Committee.—Messrs. S. H. Dennis; St. John Hunt and A. Middleton were elected.

Election of Members of Advisory Committee for the Coorg and Mysore Military Area.—Messrs. H. H. English and H. Clement Davies were elected.

Read letter from the Secretary, the U.P.A.S.I. *in re* Tung Oil.

Read letter from the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

Date of the next Meeting.—July 2, 1931, was chosen as the date of the next Meeting.

Mr. Young proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the outgoing Committee which was carried.

The Chairman then proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Members of the Kadur Club for the use of the building, and declared the Meeting closed.

C. C. COUCHMAN,
Secretary.

E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE

VANIMPERIYAR.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Central Travancore Planters' Association (incorporated) held at Vandiperiyar Club at 10 a.m. on May 16, 1931.

Present :

Messrs. R. J. McMullin (*Chairman*), C. J. Madden, J. Wedderspoon, E. C. Sylvester, D. I. Gardiner, G. G. Milne, D. A. Wood, M. W. Hoare, W. M. Stanton, G. Newton, H. Clarke, A. R. St. George, A. H. J. How, H. Gibbon, K. L. Kershaw, R. B. Webb, W. B. Glenie, A. V. Mawer, M.C., A. B. Gordon Graham, A. R. H. Angus, P. Cruickshank, J. H. Cantlay (*Honorary Secretary*).

Notice

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Meetings.—The Minutes of all Committee Meetings and the last General Meeting held during the year, were taken as read.

In this connection, the Chairman said that with the meeting's approval, it was suggested to circularize the minutes of all meetings among all members in future. The meeting was in favour of this being done, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed accordingly.

Chairman's Address.—The Chairman addressed the meeting as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,

Your committee have asked me to fill a gap by acting for Mr. Milner on his going on Home furlough and accordingly it falls on me to take his place in making a few comments on the past year.

Mr. Cantlay is going to read the Honorary Secretary's report which will give you all the details of the actual working of the year and leaves me very little to say about it.

The year was one of uncertainty for tea : accumulation of stocks being on the increase induced the growers in the chief producing countries to come to an agreement about the limitation of crops for 1930.

India and Ceylon appear to have carried out their contract but unfortunately the Dutch growers found they could not restrict native production with the result that the stocks have not shrunk as they were expected to, and this has been the chief factor in making a similar agreement this year impracticable.

The result is that the tea market is liable to be faced with an increase of the already over-loaded stocks and in consequence although the market is at present satisfactory for quality teas there is fear of the possibility of our following in the steps of rubber.

This however is most problematical because there is a vital difference between tea and rubber, because while the production of rubber tends to increase, competition and economy exert every effort to decrease its consumption and the capacity for expansion of the rubber market is limited,

The motor tyre for instance now does very well in the carriage; it was capable of doing a short time ago and there is, I believe, very considerably less rubber used in the tyres of to-day than in that of the one made yesterday.

Tea on the other hand is the cheapest and the healthiest drink produced, being even considerably cheaper than coffee and the making of new drinks from it could easily be made to appeal to the imagination of the experimenter, whilst there is no limit to the market which can be created for it. There is in fact one very close at hand which, until quite recently, we do not seem to have been very concerned about. This market lies at our doors and it is of absolutely essential importance to develop it.

The Indian Tea Association and the Tea Cess Committee are doing a great deal to increase sales in India but there is a tremendous scope for activity in this market and every effort that is made must be very amply repaid.

Our interests are small when compared with the very large tea-growing area of Northern India but, all the same, our interests are none the less as keen in keeping the price of tea up and we are anxious that no reasonable stone be left unturned to increase the sale of tea in India. South India contains a very large population of potential tea drinkers and we hope that the Indian Tea Cess Committee will pursue the possibilities down here as strenuously as they do in the North.

Besides India and Great Britain, there are other countries where tea can be sold and I think it is up to us all to demand the concentration of every effort to the expansion of our markets as rapidly and as widely as possible.

In the past we have periodically come up against crises in the tea market and have cried out that there was too much tea being produced, but we have always managed to get over each particular occasion without decreasing our output, and, as soon as an opportunity occurred, we invariably began to open more land in tea as hard as we could, until we again arrive at a point where we think we have reached saturation and stop extensions for a time. Having however expanded our markets and increased the demand for tea, we begin all over again.

I imagine that this is what is happening now and that having found fresh customers we will in a short time be merrily opening fresh acres, to be again faced with the same difficulties which we will surmount again, and the process be repeated until one day the real saturation point will be reached.

That, gentlemen, with 350,000,000 people sitting on our doorsteps wanting tea is however not yet. The market can never be really saturated so long as there are people in the world who are not tea drinkers, and all that is really necessary when stocks get too large is to look for fresh customers. At the same time until my predicted recovery occurs, it is necessary to exercise economy and leads me to the Budget.

Your Committee recommend the cess to be called for this year should be one anna per acre which is half that of last year and makes our total cesses Rs. 2-7-0 as against Rs. 2-11-6 last year.

The reduction of our cess will necessitate a call on our reserves to the extent of Rs. 750 according to the estimate of Revenue and Expenditure and unfortunately we have a call of nearly Rs. 1,100 in respect of members who have not yet paid their dues which will leave us with only an estimated balance of Rs. 1,143 at the end of the year. Unless by very careful working we can avoid calling on the Rs. 750 as fixed deposit and we hope that

more prosperous times will opportunely arrive to save us depleting our reserves any further.

To now revert to our own particular affairs, there are several matters which might be referred to. One is the removal of the Fairfield Arrack Shop over which your Committee had so much trouble. I am glad to think that it is now gone and I feel we ought to thank the Dewan of Travancore for his help in the removal and, I think, as an Association, we ought to be satisfied with having got what we have in this matter.

We are still faced with the Export Duty we have to pay on the tea we send out of Travancore. This is rather a difficult thing to get removed as the Government are naturally loath to exchange a source of revenue which they can fairly accurately gauge for one which is dependent on the variable prices of the market.

There can be no objection to pay taxes out of profits, whereas it must always be a hardship when taxes have to be paid whether there is profit or loss; especially when such taxes handicap us in competition with our neighbours. As also the great majority of the Estates subscribing to this Association would be able to recover what they paid out of the taxes they pay to the Home Exchequer, we feel we are being forced to unnecessary hardship and we must therefore continue to press for a change in the method of taxation which we shall agree as being fair and equitable to all parties.

We have not yet been able to get a law to check tea thefts as, owing to certain legal points, we have not the support of Government. We must therefore look for other means of getting what we want and your Committee is now considering the matter.

The proposed affiliation with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute is a progressive step which I hope will go through without hitch as should be the case considering that the agreement now only requires the acknowledgement of the Ceylon Planters' Association I believe. It however seems to me a pity that we are contemplating cutting away from the Assam Scientific Department with which we have associated for so long. It might have been more advantageous had we made the most of our situation by co-ordinating the two Stations.

I think we ought to record our thanks to Mr. Milner for all the work he has done in starting the *C.T.P.A. Journal* and keeping it going for three years. It is hard work and takes up a lot of spare time and we must congratulate him on the interest it has created not only in this District but also outside. It has been such a success that it is a pity that we cannot carry it on this year but times are hard and we must wait for better ones before restarting it.

I would like to mention the fact of the change in the administration of the U.P.A.S.I. by the retirement of Mr. Waddington the Secretary. Mr. Waddington has served the U.P.A.S.I. very well and faithfully, and I am sure we will all miss his experienced helpful hand, and I am glad that the Association has made such suitable provision for him. I will ask you later to pass a resolution wishing Mr. and Mrs. Waddington a comfortable happy life in their retirement.

I would like to thank Mr. Cantlay on my own behalf for the help he has been to me during my short regime, and am sorry that his Home leave interferes with his carrying on for another year, though I expect he prefers it otherwise.

And now I will conclude by thanking you all on behalf of Mr. Milner for your support during the past year and on your behalf thank him for all

he has done for the Association and wish him and Mrs. Milner a very pleasant leave in England.

The Honorary Secretary read his report which was as follows :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

Meetings.—There were 7 Committee, 1 Extraordinary, and 2 Ordinary quarterly General Meetings held during the year. The average attendance at the latter was 18, as against 26 last year. Your Committee, in the interests of economy, recommends that the General Meetings during the year, be reduced to two in future: one, the Annual General Meeting, and the other, to review the working for the half year. This will be in accordance with the articles of the Association.

Membership.—There were resignations from five members, of which two have ceased to be members for the current year, and three as from April 1, 1932.

Acreage.—The subscribing acreage increased from 21,775.85 acres to 22,003.58 acres, an increase of 227.73 acres. This year we start off with a further increase of 219.99 acres.

Crop.—The total crop harvested from 18,892.74 acres tea in bearing belonging to subscribing estates, was 9,374,232 lbs. or 496.18 lbs. per acre against 10,822,080 lbs. or 607.68 lbs. per acre.

The total crop for the district, including non-subscribing estates was 10,390,218 lbs. against 11,749,649 lbs. a decrease of 1,359,431 lbs.

Cess.—The cess collected last year was annas two per acre, which was insufficient to cover the expenditure of the Association, by Rs. 252.2-6.

For the current year, your Committee recommends a reduction of one anna per acre.

Accounts.—The accounts show an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 252.2-6, reducing our reserve balance from Rs. 3,278.2-2 to Rs. 3,025.15-8, of which Rs. 1,500 is on fixed Deposit at 4 per cent interest, with the National Bank of India, Madras.

The excess in expenditure is due to the Delegates' expenses to Trivandrum, for the purpose of interviewing Government, in connection with the Fairfield arrack shop, not allowed for in the Budget.

C.T.P.A. Journal.—This year 150 copies were printed at a cost of Rs. 477 of which 59 copies were issued free and 55 copies sold, as against 60 last year at Rs. 5 a copy; 36 copies remain in stock. The total cost to the Association was Rs. 172 as against Rs. 183.13-0 last year.

P.B. Fund.—During the year, 47 members have subscribed out of a total of 57, which is an increase on last year, of 5 subscribing members.

U.P.A.S.I. Cesses.—The total subscription to the U.P.A.S.I. in all its branches during the year was Rs. 2.9-6 per acre, as against Rs. 3.8-0 last year, which is a reduction of Rs. 0.14-6 per acre; and for the current year the cess has been reduced by Rs. 0.3-6 per acre.

General.—From the minutes previously, and now read, you will see that your Committee have been able to deal satisfactorily with the many and varied subjects, which have come before them.

With regard to planting politics, of which this Association has ever taken its share, those who have read the book of proceedings for 1930 will have seen the part your Delegates took in the meeting's deliberations at Bangalore last August, which have resulted in real economies being effected throughout all branches of the U.P.A.S.I.

In reply to our request for protection against the depredations by wild elephants, the Travancore Government have instructed the Forest Department to commence elephant capturing operations at once.

The question of the removal of Export Duty on Tea is still under consideration by the Travancore Government. It is not considered likely that super-tax will be introduced into Travancore in the near future, but a higher percentage of tax than 40 per cent will have to be agreed to.

The question of affiliation with the T.R.I. of Ceylon was agreed to, *nem. con.*, by all District Associations, and we now await Ceylon's decision in the matter.

The Political Department is now on a most satisfactory and economical basis, thanks to the Madras Chamber of Commerce and other bodies, who, by their increased support, now propose to show their appreciation of Mr. James' valuable services.

If a Federal Government comes into existence, which seems possible in the near future, Indian States will require more than ever, good sound political representation, which we can expect from Mr. James.

With regard to communications, the Kodaikanal-Kuruvanuth-Kumili road is now in a very fair state of repair, and should in future, under the new classification 'B' (with the extra allotment by Government, as follows,—

$\frac{1}{2}$ mile at 600 per mile			
7 miles at 1,000	"	Ghat section	
68	400	"	

in addition to the Madura Board's contribution), continue so to be.

In this connection our thanks are due to all those officials and others, who, by their help, have raised the standard of the road to what might now be called 'first class.'

Tolls are a thing of the past in British India; and it is hoped that Travancore will soon scrap, what is an antediluvian method of collecting revenue for the maintenance of roads and follow more up-to-date methods.

: That vexed question, the removal of the Fairfield arrack shop to a site near the Newlands rifle butts, appears to be, like Vesuvius, ever simmering; probably due to the site being, at present, hardly conducive to increasing the sale of arrack.

The Dewan, in an interview with your Delegate to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, promised to go into this question himself, and, if there were reasonable grounds for complaint, he would issue the necessary orders to the Excise Authorities.

I would remind members that the Factories Act does not, at present, apply to Tea Factories in Travancore.

From statistics published by the Imperial Economic Committee in their 18th report, which deals exclusively with teas, the United Kingdom appears to have almost reached saturation point with regard to the consumption of tea. At present the annual consumption *per capita* amounts to 9.20 lbs. or a total of 421.3 million lbs. This represents an average of over 4½ cups per day per head for the entire population of the United Kingdom. The consumption in Australia is 8.15 lbs. per head, or a total of 49.0 million lbs. Irish Free State 7.90 lbs. per head or 23.6 million lbs., Canada 4.10 lbs. per head or 39 million lbs., New Zealand 7.90 lbs. per head or 11.9 millions, Newfoundland 5.46 lbs. per head or 1.4 million. In India however the consumption per head is only 1.18 lbs. or a total of 57 million lbs.. India produces annually 400 million lbs. of tea, and if only one cup was consumed per head, per day, by the entire population, the production would fall short of India's own requirements by 180 million lbs.

Thus it will be seen that propaganda work in India is more likely to be productive than in any other country.

The Food Adulteration Bill, which includes tea, has at last gone through the Legislative Council, and it now only remains to put this into force.

An Act is in operation in Madras, and Inspectors have been appointed in some of the chief centres of the tea trade to deal with any cases of adulteration, which may come to their notice. An Analyst in Madras has also been appointed by Government.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Wallace and Lampard for their efforts on our behalf with regard to the question of Export duty and Income tax, which, in spite of deputations and endless correspondence, are both still unsettled.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Committee for their generous support during the past year, and now tender you my resignation.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. H. Waddington's proposed retirement.—Read letter from Mr. Waddington with regard to an amendment to the resolution drafted by Messrs. King and Partridge, which the Anamallai Planters' Association propose to move at an extraordinary General Meeting to be held at Madras on May 25, 1931.

The Meeting was not in favour of supporting the Anamallai Association's resolution, in view of the resolution passed at the General Committee Meeting, held at Coonoor on April 20, 1931, which reads 'That the Executive Committee be given power to do anything necessary to guarantee the continuity of the pension to Mr. Waddington' and the Executive Committee's subsequent action in the matter, which resulted in Messrs. King and Partridge's suggested resolution, to be moved at an extraordinary General Meeting of the Association reading 'Resolved that a pension of Rs. 500 per month be paid to Mr. H. Waddington for his life time and that the payment thereof should be secured by a charge on the immovable properties of the Association.'

Read Honorary Secretary's letter to Secretary U.P.A.S.I. asking him to obtain the necessary substitute for this Association's representative to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association, to be held at Madras on May 25, 1931, and, also advising him of the Committee's approval with regard to the suggestions put forward by Messrs. King and Partridge which were confirmed.

Factories Act.—Read letter from the Superintendent of Churakulam Estate, asking for advice on the question of an intended visit to his Factory, by the Assistant Surgeon Arudai.

The Honorary Secretary's reply, stating that the Assistant Surgeon might be allowed to see the Factory, but that he could not claim it as a right, and, that the carrying out or not, of any suggestions he makes with regard to its maintenance etc., rests entirely with the owner, was approved.

U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department Rules.—Read letter from the Secretary with regard to the amending of these rules, necessitated by the abolition of the Control Committees.

The Meeting considered that this was a question upon which the views of all members should be recorded, and, the Honorary Secretary was instructed to circularize the proposed amendments to all members for their comments.

Travancore Legislative Council.—Read copy of a letter received from Mr. L. A. Lampard addressed to the Mundakayam Association, in which he advises them of his intended departure for Home on medical grounds at the end of July. *Recorded.*

Tea Thefts Act.—Letter addressed to the Dewan by the Honorary Secretary was read, in which the Committee suggest, that, as an Act will not find favour with the Government, it might be possible to license all dealers.

Plague.—Read letter from Honorary Secretary to Commissioner of Devicolam with regard to the cost of vaccine being met by the Government, and not by the Estates, which was agreed to under a misapprehension. Under the Regulation 2 of 1073 and rule 27 framed thereunder, the expenditure of inoculation shall be met from the General Revenue of the State.

Read letter addressed to the Medical Officer, 'Plague Inoculation Work Estates,' by the Honorary Secretary, in which he is advised that the inoculation of Estate labour cannot be carried out, until the question of liability for cost of vaccine has been settled with the Commissioner, Devicolam.

Read letter addressed to the Superintendent of Dymock by the Commissioner of Devicolam, in which he refuses a request made by the Superintendent of Dymock for a special permit to import 600 bags of rice between May 30 and June 7, 1931, on the grounds that no individual exemption can be granted to one Estate, and that a permit can only be granted when he is definitely assured that there is no further danger from infection from Cumbum side. *Recorded.*

Read letter addressed to the Dewan by Merchants of Cumbum requesting that the admittance of food stuffs into Travancore via Kumili be permitted, in view of there being no plague at Cumbum or Kumili. *Recorded.*

Tea Sales in Travancore.—Read the Honorary Secretary's letter to the Honorary Secretary, T.C.P.A., with regard to his Committee dealing with the subject, and, if necessary, to arrange with the I.T.C. for a visit by Mr. C Phillips to investigate conditions in Travancore.

Accounts.—Mr. Sylvester proposed and Mr. Gardiner seconded that the accounts for 1930-31 be adopted. *Carried.*

Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.—The Delegate read his report for which he was thanked by the Meeting, and his expenses were sanctioned.

U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting.—The Delegate read his report and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks by the Meeting, and his expenses were sanctioned.

Cess 1931-32.—Proposed from the Chair and carried by the meeting that the cess be anna one per acre.

Office-bearers, 1931-32.—The Executive for the year were elected as follows:—

Mr. R. J. McMullin (<i>Chairman</i>). " C. J. Madden.....(<i>Honorary Secretary</i>). Messrs. J. M. Wilkie " A. R. St. George " A. V. Mawer, M. C. " J. Wedderspoon " E. C. Sylvester " W. F. Inman. " H. Clarke	} } Committee.
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General Committee Members, U.P.A.S.I.—Chairman & Hon. Secretary.

Auditor.—Mr. V. Vadivel Pillai.

District Sports Committee.—As at present.

District Game Association.—As at present.

European Association.—Mr. C. J. Madden.

Any other Business.—Proposed from the Chair and unanimously carried by the meeting ‘That this Association records its appreciation of the services of Mr. H. Waddington and wishes both Mr. and Mrs. Waddington many happy years of comfortable retirement.’

District Rates.—Proposed by Mr. H. Clarke and seconded by Mr. A. R. St. George ‘That the members of Peermade and Vandiperiyar districts hold independant meetings in their districts, to go into the question of rates, and report their findings to the Committee at an early date.’ *Carried*.

Proposed by Mr. A. R. St. George seconded by Mr. A. V. Mawer, M. C., ‘That Mr. E. C. Sylvester and Mr. J. Wedderspoon do convene the necessary meetings at the first possible opportunity.’ *Carried*.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and the Vandiperiyar Club Committee for the use of their Club.

R. J. McMULLIN,

Chairman.

J. H. CANTLAY,

Honorary Secretary.

MUNDAKAYAM

Minutes of the Twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Mundakayam Planters' Association, held in the Mundakayam Club on Wednesday, the 20th May, 1931, at 3 p.m.

Present

Messrs. O. J. Egan-Wyer (*Chairman*), G. A. Brooke, R. Harley, M. R. Coghlan, I. N. James, H. B. Macpherson, C. L. McLean, R. M. Saywell, A. D. Vincent, J. L. Hall, A. J. Fray, G. A. Rutherford, R. Seelingman, J. Doig, and R. A. McKay (*Hon. Secretary*).

Notice calling the meeting. The Hon. Secretary read the notice calling the meeting, and presented his report for the past 12 months' working of the Association. A printed copy of the report had been circulated to all members along with the notice, and the Chairman having enquired whether any member wished the report read out, it was proposed by Mr. G. A. Rutherford and seconded by Mr. R. M. Saywell, ‘That the Report of the Committee of Management be adopted’.

Put to the Meeting and *carried unanimously*.

Pension to Mr. Waddington. The Chairman having asked permission to deal with the ordinary business of the Association before passing on to the Election of a new Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Committee, brought up the question of the proposed pension to Mr. Waddington, and requested the Hon. Secretary to read the relative correspondence.

The ensuing discussion was based on the letters sent in by members in reply to the original notice from Mr. Waddington.

Several members questioned the necessity of paying any pension, holding that Mr. Waddington had been well paid during his term of office, and

that his credit in the Provident Fund ought to be considered in the light of a retiring pension. It was pointed out that the payment of a pension to Mr. Waddington would create a precedent which might conceivably lead to other demands of a like nature being made in the future.

The meeting was unanimously against the hypothecation of the immovable properties of the U.P.A.S.I. to Mr. Waddington as surety for the life-time continuance of his pension.

Mr. Saywell put forward a proposal 'that a pension of Rs. 500 per month be granted to Mr. Waddington, and that same be paid out of, and be a charge upon, the revenue of the year in which it is paid', but being unsupported by a seconder, the proposal was withdrawn.

The resolution of the Anamalai Association was considered very sound, but some members considered the whole sum at credit of Mr. Waddington's Provident Fund should be utilized as part payment towards an annuity, not only the U. P. A. S. I. contribution. After further discussion, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. I. N. James and seconded by Mr. G. A. Brooke, 'That the Anamalai Association's resolutions be supported by this Association'.

Put to the meeting and carried. One member dissenting.

Mycological Station : Question of retention, and Mr. Walmsley's Letter.

The Chairman now introduced the question of the Mycological Station, and the Hon. Secretary read correspondence from the Executive Committee Member for Rubber on the subject, and also letters from members of the Association giving their opinions.

There followed a lengthy discussion on the matter, many divergent views being expressed by those present. While some considered that it was unnecessary to retain the services of a highly qualified, highly paid Scientific Officer during a period when hardly any Funds were available for Field or Laboratory Experiments, and others considered it would prove a short-sighted policy to dispense with the services of a qualified and competent Scientist unless they were forced to do so. These latter considered it possible that within perhaps a year or so, the Association might again be calling for a qualified man, were the present officer's services now terminated.

It was pointed out that were the Station to be run on a care and maintenance basis only, few Estates would consider rejoining the U. P. A. S. I. in 1932, and paying a cess to Head Office charges only, while receiving no benefits from the Station.

Several members enquired why, if Rubber had a Reserve, that Reserve should not be drawn upon to keep the Station going with a qualified officer in charge.

It was fully recognised that the uncertainty of the whole position made a definite ruling difficult, but there was a general feeling that the Station should be kept running on as complete a programme as possible and that the Scientific Officer should be retained.

The following resolution was then tabled by Mr. R. Harley and seconded by Mr. C. L. McLean—

'That in view of there now being signs of some spirit of economy germinating in the management of the U.P.A.S.I., that proprietors be asked (a) To re-consider resignations, (b) to continue providing a first class Scientific Officer to help us in meeting competition.'

Carried—with two dissentients.

The undernoted supporting Resolution, moved by Mr. C. L. McLean and seconded by Mr. R. M. Saywell, was then laid before the Meeting.

'That this Association hopes that the Executive Committee Member be asked to consider the following suggestions :—

(a) To ascertain the acreage which would be prepared to support the retention of the Scientific Officer and the continuing of the Station at a cess of 2 to 3 annas per acre, and in the event of 32,000 acres supporting, to consider the following budget drafted at 2 annas per acre; the Scientific Officer being asked to accept a reduced salary of Rs. 650 per month'.

The following Budget was based on that submitted by the Executive Member for Rubber in his letter, dated the 14th May :—

DRAFT BUDGET.

<i>Income</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs. A. P.	
Subsidies	... 8,931 0 0	Passed on Mr. Walmesley's Bud-
Scientific cess 32,000 acres at 2 annas per acre	... 4,000 0 0	get of the 14th May and the retention of the Scientific Officer at a reduced salary.
Total	... 12,931 0 0	Rs. A. P. 14,081 0 0

Excess of expenditure over income to be carried forward as a debit balance account. Rubber. Should a greater acreage than 32,000 acres support, the difference in income received to augment the Scientific Officer's salary.

The resolution being put to the meeting, was carried by a narrow majority.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward the above two Resolutions to the Executive member for Rubber.

Approval and passing of Budget for 1931-32.—The Special Business of the Meeting—The approval and passing, if thought fit, of the Budget for the ensuing year was now dealt with, the Honorary Secretary presenting his Draft Budget for 1931-32. After scrutiny, it was proposed by Mr. H. B. Macpherson and seconded by Mr. A. D. Vincent, that the budgeted expenditure be passed.

Carried.

It was then proposed from the chair 'That a local cess of $\frac{1}{2}$ an anna per acre be called up for the year, and that the remaining sum required to meet expenditure be met by withdrawing the sum at credit of the Current Account, in full, and the balance by drawing on the Reserve Fund'.

Carried.

Election of Auditor.—It was proposed from the chair that Mr. V. Vadivel Pillay be re-elected as auditor.

Carried.

Chairman's Address.—The Chairman then addressed the Meeting in a short speech, and in laying before them his resignation and that of Honorary Secretary and Committee, expressed his thanks to members, the

Committee and the Honorary Secretary for their assistance during a difficult year.

Election of Office-bearers for 1931-32.—It was proposed from the chair that Mr. R. M. Saywell be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Egan-Wyer having vacated the chair, it was taken by Mr. Saywell who requested the meeting to elect an Honorary Secretary. Proposed by Mr. A. D. Vincent and seconded by Mr. H. B. Macpherson, that Mr. Egan-Wyer be elected as Honorary Secretary.

Carried unanimously.

Ballot papers were than circulated for the election of the Committee Members and the under-noted gentlemen, who signified their willingness to act, were appointed—

1. Mr. H. B. Macpherson—*Vice-Chairman.*
2. " C. L. McLean.
3. I. N. James.
4. A. D. Vincent.
5. M. R. Coghlan.
6. N. B. Hartley, R. A. C. Member, *ex officio* Member of the Committee.

There being no other business brought forward, the Chairman called for a hearty vote of thanks for the late Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Committee Members for their hard work during the year.

This was duly accorded, and the Meeting terminated.

O. J. EGAN-WYER,
Chairman.

R. A. MCKAY,
Honorary Secretary.

SHEVAROYS

**Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the Shevaroy Planters' Association
(Incor.), held at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Yercaud, on Thursday,
May 21, 1931, at 2-30 p.m.**

Members Present :

Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes (*Chairman*), Mrs. M. S. R. Short, Mrs. V. A. Lechler, Mrs. Cayley, Capt. Hussey, Rev. Fathers M. Capelle and Faisandier, Messrs. M. Le Marchand, E. L. Poyser, H. S. Dyer C. L. Hight, N. M. Hight, E. H. Gilby, V. L. Travers Drapes, C. Rahm, W. A. Rahm, W. I. A. Lechler, C. D. Ryle, P. J. Watts, F. G. V. Travers Drapes, B. A. R. Kandaswamy Chettiar, E. K. Dickins, and P. Villers Briscoe (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitors :

Miss D. Lechler and Mr. V. Ryle,

AGENDA

1. *Notice calling the Meeting.*—The notice calling the meeting was read.

2. *Committee's Report for 1930-31*—(see printed copy appended herewith)—Copies of the Committee's Report having been sent to all members, it was proposed by Mr. E. L. Poyser and seconded by Mr. C. D. Ryle that it be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Poyser congratulated the Committee on their work during the year and also proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Honorary Secretary and office-bearers for their labours during the past year, to which the Chairman suitably replied.

Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes gave a review of the past year and the future and urged on members to use their personal influence with their friends with a view to joining the Association, mentioning some of the benefits derived therefrom and regretted the necessity of Mr. Waddington's retirement.

Since the Report of the Committee had been printed, the Chairman was glad to inform the Meeting, that the seven estates that had tendered their resignations from the S.P.A., had withdrawn them, and also the importation of foreign raw coffee had been prohibited.

3. *To examine and pass audited accounts for year ending March 31, 1931.*—Proposed by Rev. Father M. Capelle and seconded by Mr. E. L. Poyser, that the audited accounts for year ending March 31, 1931, be passed.

Carried unanimously.

4. *Budget for 1931-32.*—Mr. M. Le Marchand proposed that the Budget for the year 1931-32 should be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. V. L. Travers Drapes.

Carried unanimously.

5. (a) *Election of Office-bearers.*—On a ballot being taken, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year :—

Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes (*Chairman*).

Mr. P. Villiers Briscoe (*Honorary Secretary*).

Messrs. B. A. R. Kandaswamy Chettiar	} Members of the Committee.
„ N. M. Hight	
„ P. J. Watts	
„ W. A. Rahm	
„ Rev. Fr. M. Capelle	

(b) *Election of S.P.A. Standing Labour Committee.*—Proposed by Mr. C. D. Ryle and seconded by W. E. L. Poyser that the Committee for 1930-31 should stand, which are as follows.—

Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes, Mrs. V. A. Lechner, Messrs. C. L. Hight, V. L. Travers Drapes, B. A. R. Kandaswamy Chettiar, P. Villiers Briscoe and Rev. Father Faisandier.

(c) *Election of U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Members.*—Proposed by Mr. E. L. Poyser and seconded by Mr. B. A. R. Kandaswamy Chettiar, that the Chairman and Honorary Secretary be elected as U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Members.

Carried.

6. *Appointment of an Auditor for the coming year.*—Proposed by Mr. W. A. Rahm and seconded by Rev. Father M. Capelle that Mr. K. V. Gopalaiyer be re-elected as auditor for the coming year on a remuneration of Rs. 25.

Carried.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.

E. H. A. TRAVERS DRAPES,
Chairman.

P. VILLIERS BRISCOE,
Honorary Secretary.

**Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shevaroy Planters' Association
(Incorporated) held at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Yercaud, on Thursday
May 21, 1931, at 2 p.m.**

Members Present :

Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes (*Chairman*), Mrs. M. S. R. Short, Mrs. V. A. Lechler, Mrs. Cayley, Capt. Hussey, Rev. Fathers M. Capelle, and Faisandier, Messrs. M. Le Marchand, E. L. Poyser, H. S. Dyer, C. L. Hight, N. M. Hight, E. H. Gilby, V. L. Travers Drapes, C. Rahm, W. A. Rahm, W. I. A. Lechler, C. D. Ryle, P. J. Watts, E. K. Dickins, R. A. R. Kandaswamy Chettiar and P. Villiers Briscoe (*Hon. Secretary*.)

Visitors :

Miss D. Lechler and Mr. V. Ryle.

AGENDA

1. *Notice calling the Meeting.*—Notice calling the Meeting was read.
2. *Confirmation of Proceedings.*—Read and confirmed the Proceedings of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on February 5, 1931.
3. *Correspondence and other subjects*—Upper Lake Road—Yercaud—Read letter, dated May 12, 1931, from the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., stating that Government were not prepared to take over the road from the Toll Gate to the Post Office, as they did not see sufficient reason for doing so.

Read letter No. 131, dated May 14, 1931, from A. H. A. Todd, Esq., District Magistrate, Salem, bringing to the notice of the Association, the petty complaints frequently made to the Sub-Inspector of Police, Yercaud, stating that in future these complaints should be made to the Sub-Magistrate's Court or to the District Munsiff's Court.

As there was no other business, the Meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

E. H. A. TRAVERS DRAPES,
Hon. Secretary.

P. VILLIERS BRISCOE,
Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE

A reply to Dr. Coleman

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Dr. Coleman's letter in your number for May 23, must have caused pain and surprise to a good many of your readers. It seems to me largely a matter of misunderstanding due to bad reporting. The report of the General Committee Meeting was bald in the extreme and, whether intentionally or not, concealed rather than revealed the proceedings. Executive Committee Meetings are kept too much of a secret: General Committee Meetings at all events should be as open as the day. A storm now appears to have occurred in a teapot, or at any rate, in something not larger than a household utensil. I will endeavour to pour a drop of oil on the troubled waters and hope it will not merely cause a precipitate of further trouble. The whole position is one of some delicacy and requires clearer adjustment, the Coffee Scientific Officer being paid by Upasi, but attached to and under orders from the Director of Agriculture of Mysore. Mr. Mayne, from his biological knowledge, can inform us that there are certain marine animals—gasteropods or something that start life trisking about in the ocean but eventually become immovably fixed to a rock. We were only afraid that he was reaching the condition of these interesting creatures. At the time of my visit to the Farm he was certainly engaged, single handed, in laboratory work of the utmost importance to coffee planters, a work that would require his constant presence. If and when—as the spectator says—he has a fully qualified Indian Assistant, he will be able to move, when necessary, somewhat more freely. It may be unscientific, but, human nature being what it is, many subscribers, unless they see their scientific officer occasionally, think they are not getting their money's worth. (I should mention that there is, of course, a capable and qualified Indian manager, but he has plenty to do as it is). There is also the particular and serious case of mealy bug and cockchafer in S. Coorg. When the resolution about this was carried by the C. P. A., I certainly got the impression that a week or 10 days on the spot, at the worst time, was what was wanted and agreed to. To hear that 3 months was proposed in General Committee was a shock and it seemed impossible to carry this out under present conditions.

But, as stated, the proceedings as reported on the *P. C.*, conveyed very little at all. As regards the word 'dissatisfaction', if used, it only shows the cursed intricacies and different meanings of the English language.

The only 'dissatisfaction' possible with Dr. Coleman or Mr. Mayne is due to want of knowledge or personal contact. Whatever our politics, it is recognized that a scientific department must be an autocracy, in Dr. Coleman's case a most efficient, wise and benevolent autocracy. But it is not given to everyone to travel hundreds of miles to see the Farm, richly rewarded though every one is who goes there. (There omit a dissertation on the Malnad roads of Mysore.) Even more publicity is the remedy for misunderstandings (all Executive Committees love secrecy).

Dr. Coleman himself has advocated a member of the Farm Advisory Committee from outside Mysore. Our Executive Committee coffee member, if not in Mysore, would be ideal for this; he would form a useful link and enable any 'dissatisfaction' to reach the Director at once.

The Executive Committee of the Upasi as such, would then be out of it and there would be

‘One less finger in the pie
One less cook to spoil the broth’

As regards the last part of his letter, I feel sure that, on reflection, Dr. Coleman will see that there was not, and could not have been, any such absurd implication made in Ootacamund that the work on the Farm was only in the interests of Mysore planters, or that European planters considered themselves a class apart.

Whatever may have been the case in past ages, we have changed, or hope rapidly to change, all that.

Cowcoody, SOMWARPET P.O.,
N. COORG,
May 27, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
L. NEWCOME.

Work of the Coffee Scientific Officer

The Editor, ‘The Planters’ Chronicle’

SIR,

In reference to Dr. Coleman's letter in your issue of May 23 :—

The words attributed to me and objected to by Dr. Coleman are not those I actually used (in particular ‘and not put all the laboratory work on Mr. Mayne’) but they are a fair paraphrase of what I did say. Nevertheless, Dr. Coleman is right as to my realization of all the implications. I am indeed in the position of the member of the audience whose hat has been borrowed and who is more surprised than anyone else at all that is made to appear out of it.

I believe that it is a fact that hitherto all the laboratory work on the Station has been done by the U.P.A.S.I Coffee Scientific Officer, and therefore had he never been there or were he to be withdrawn, another appointment to the Station staff would have been or would be necessary. To this extent the staff without the C.S.O. seems to me incomplete. The question of the C.S.O.’s visiting other districts has now arisen and will continue to arise : to enable him to do so without work at the Station being interfered with in any way, a fully qualified official, as distinct from a laboratory assistant, seems to be needed at the Station. Dr. Coleman states that it has been arranged that the C.S.O. shall visit Coorg as often and stay there as long as may turn out to be necessary : what is to happen to his Station work meanwhile ? Unless there is someone to carry it on, rather than just to keep it going, surely it will suffer in some way.

My idea is that the C.S.O. should be chiefly engaged on *ad hoc* research at the Station and that such work should be in no way affected when he has to tour : without another laboratory worker at the Station I do not see how this is to be done.

When Dr. Coleman apparently makes me accuse him of using the C.S.O. for the benefit of the Mysore Government to the detriment of the U.P.A.S.I., and makes me introduce the racial and a Mysore *versus* non-Mysore question, I cannot follow him. These are not my ideas and I am not conscious of having given any reason for their being attributed to me.

This kind of correspondence, Mr. Editor, makes one realize fully, and makes one hope that you too realize fully, the futility of your publication being a beggarly fortnightly affair. It is high time that it returned to its original weekly appearance.

May 26, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
A. L. HILL.

U.P.A.S.I. General Reserve Fund
The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Mr. A. K. Thomas's letter in your issue of May 23, again re-opens a subject, which I thought all concerned were glad to think dead and buried in August last year, when it was definitely agreed that the reserves of the U.P.A.S.I. were the equal property of the whole of the U.P.A.S.I.

As a party to this settlement, I do not propose to explain again why the rubber estates in the U.P.A.S.I. never accepted the position of reserves referred to in the letter under reply, but claimed a large credit in place of a deficit.

The withdrawal from reserves on account of rubber is to be taken from the General reserves, the equal property of all estates belonging to the U.P.A.S.I., of which over Re. 1 per acre is liquid, and which is available for withdrawal when necessary by any product by sanction of the General Committee, provided not more is drawn than its proportion.

Attention was drawn particularly by the undersigned at the meeting of the General Committee in Coonoor to the necessity of showing clearly any such withdrawals in the Annual accounts, so that there should be no question as to the future position of each product in regard to Reserve Funds.

The amount now withdrawn by rubber is on account of contribution to the Head Office expenditure only and the alternative to this withdrawal would be the compulsory resignation of the whole rubber area entailing further expenditure to the tea and coffee area of the amount rubber is still contributing on this account.

Yours, etc.,

PALAPILLY P.O.,

H. J. WALMESLEY.

May 27, 1931.

Motor Tugs

The Editor, The 'Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Your numerous readers amongst the Planting community in Travancore State might be interested to learn that on Saturday the 16th instant, Messrs. Aspinwall & Co., Ltd., launched the first of their Motor tugs to work in conjunction with 8 light draft Barges specially constructed for handling over the Travancore Backwaters the transport of the estates in the Mundakayam and Central Travancore Districts.

This tug of 50 Horse Power with a speed of between 5 to 6 miles an hour will be employed exclusively on the transport of Estate requirements and Estates produce, and working in close co-operation with the Motor Transport and Aerial Ropeway Co., Ltd., Kottayam, will afford an efficient, rapid and economical transport organization between the Estates and Cochin, enabling estates to take full advantage of the facilities offered by the Port, where the loading of steamers in the Inner Harbour continues uninterruptedly throughout the year.

COCHIN,
May 18, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
H. D. PATCH.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING MARCH, 1931

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia	
<i>Coffee—</i>										
Madras	...	...	291	...	4,329	...	29	...	...
Calicut	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	90
Cochin	...	...	7	...	5,469	24,587	3,064	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	413	...	225	3,4 4	...	...	1,988
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	714	10,023	28,911	3,064	29	302	2,079	
	Previously...	1,655	185,414	32,98	30,363	3,094	202	1,855	1,088	
Total cwt.s. since 1-1-31.	301,091	...	2,369	185,414	42,321	59,274	6,158	231	3,167	
<i>Rubber—</i>										
Calicut	...	...	29,299	100,343	82,919	...	...	56,000	...
Cochin	...	...	...	175,309	97,895	...	...	22,400	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	104,198	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	...	20,973	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	9,088	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	9,560	142,250	39,550	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	38,859	552,161	220,364	...	...	78,400	...
	Previously...	86,449	939,228	1,572,986	69,505	...	...	67,284	...
Total lbs. since 1-1-31.	3,625,236	...	125,308	1,491,389	1,793,350	69,505	...	145,684	...	
<i>Tea—</i>										
Madras	...	...	1,120	9,477	816,347	900	4,055	...	3,570
Calicut	...	...	32,283	27,584	745,072	350	...	...	31,051
Cochin	...	...	38,542	...	...	...	1,048	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	204,046	1,019,584	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	14,940	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	71,915	241,107	2,695,531	1,250	5,103	...	34,621	
	Previously...	808,864	4,420,212	39,764,561	27,662	9,940	1,610	248,267	4,122	
Total lbs. since 1-4-30.	48,334,345	.	880,809	4,661,319	42,460,992	28,912	14,593	1,610	282,388	4,122

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Mark	Pkgs.	Price	Date of auction	District	Average prices obtained for tea.						
					Week ending April 30, 1931	January 1 to April 30, 1931	January 1 to April 30, 1930	s.	d.	s.	d.
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays: April 30; May 7, and May 14, 1931, respectively)				N. India	0 11·12	0 11·93	1 2·65				
(a) Anamallais—				S. India	a 1 3·24	b 1 1·37	c 1 3·16				
*Stanmore	167	1 8 (30)		Ceylon	1 6·53	1 4·67	1 7·26				
Nullacathu	101	1 7½ (30)		Java	0 6·76	0 8·21	0 9·83				
Thay Mudi	135	1 7½ (7)		Sumatra	0 7·16	0 8·91	0 11·13				
Nalla Mudi	141	1 6½ (7)		Nyassa	0 5·81	0 8·01	0 9·08				
Thoni Mudi	158	1 6½ (7)		I a n d.							
Anai Mudi	19	1 6 (14)		Total...	d 1 0·93	e 1 0·74	f 1 3·28				
Gajam Mudi	76	1 6 (14)									
(b) Central Travancore—				District	Week ending May 7, 1931	January 1 to May 7, 1931	January 1 to May 7, 1930	s.	d.		
Kolie Kanum	86	1 6½ (30)		N. India	0 10·62	0 11·86	1 2·65				
Kuduwa Karnum	85	1 6½ (30)		S. India	g 1 2·87	h 1 1·47	i 1 3·34				
Woodlands	65	1 6½ (7)		Ceylon	1 5·41	1 4·73	1 7·32				
Glenmary	123	1 4½ (7)		Java	0 7·06	0 8·15	0 9·93				
Do.	79	1 4½ (30)		Sumatra	0 8·14	0 8·87	0 11·20				
Thengakhal	78	1 4½ (7)		Nyassaland.	0 5·92	0 7·87	0 9·08				
(c) Kanan Devans—				Total ...	j 1 0·84	k 1 0·75	l 1 3·32				
Upp. Surianalle	88	2 1½ (30)									
Periavurrai	63	2 1 (14)		District	Week ending May 14, 1931	January 1 to May 14, 1931	January 1 to May 14, 1930	s.	d.		
Thenmallay	134	2 0½ (14)		N. India	0 10·26	0 11·77	1 2·66				
Gundumallay	45	2 0½ (14)		S. India	m 1 4·61	n 1 1·55	o 1 3·40				
Chundavurrai	24	2 0½ (14)		Ceylon	1 4·63	1 4·72	1 7·36				
Periavurrai	66	2 0 (7)		Java	0 6·99	0 8·08	0 9·99				
Surianalle	112	1 11½ (30)		Sumatra	0 7·49	0 8·81	0 11·26				
Yellapatty	50	1 11½ (14)		Nyassaland.	0 5·95	0 7·79	0 9·16				
Grahamsland	35	1 11½ (14)		Total ...	p 0 11·88	q 1 0·70	r 1 3·36				
Gundumallay	35	1 11½ (7)									
Thenmallay	35	1 11 (7)									
Surianalle	56	1 10½ (7)									
*Lockhart	134	1 10 (7)									
Yellapatty	32	1 10 (30)									
(d) Nilgiris—											
Brooklands	102	2 3½ (7)									
Prospect	134	2 1½ (7)									
Do.	170	2 1 (14)									
Do.	144	2 0½ (30)									
Parkside	61	1 10 (7)									
Do.	77	1 9½ (14)									
Nonsuch	101	1 8½ (7)									
Terramia	36	1 7 (7)									
Kodanaad	111	1 6½ (7)									
Ibex Lodge	83	1 6½ (7)									
Katary	101	1 6 (30)									
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad—											
Seaforth	84	1 6½ (7)									
(f) Wynaad—											
Pootoomulla	78	1 4 (30)									
Tangamulla	46	1 3½ (30)									
Pootoomulla	46	1 3 (7)									

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 4,225	b 95,713	c 112,544
d 93,666	e 1,442,508	f 1,381,686
g 6,641	h 102,354	i 119,120
j 94,432	k 1,536,940	l 1,479,687
m 2,629	n 104,983	o 121,272
p 85,801	q 1,622,741	r 1,566,945

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the Averages.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market—(continued)

(B) RUBBER—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Tuesday, June 2, 1931, was 3 $\frac{1}{16}$ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 30, 1931, were 85,332 tons, a decrease of 407 tons on May 23, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, May 30, 1931, were 53,842 tons, a decrease of 174 tons on May 23, 1931, inventory.

(C) COFFEE—

London prices (Seven days ending May 6 and 13, 1931, respectively).

District	Bags	s. d.	Grades	Seven days ending
<i>Anamallais—</i>				
Valparai	170	93 7	1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
<i>Coorg—</i>				
Binneys Wudderhully.	30	82 9	1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 6
Arbuthnot Yemmi-gondu	28	81 0	1, 2, PB and T	May 13
<i>Mysore—</i>				
Gorrayhatti	84	127 1	Extra, 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
Honnometti	96	124 0	1, 2, 3 and T	May 6
D. Bababoodan	52	122 10	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
Gorrayhatti	88	121 0	Extra, 1, 2, 3 and T	May 13
O. K.	106	120 0	Do.	Do.
H. C. S.	103	118 8	1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 6
Bedaguli	82	115 3	Extra, 1, 2, 3 and T	May 13
Cannon MC.	136	112 3	1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 6
Do.	176	110 9	Do.	May 13
PH & Co. Santawerry	176	110 7	Do.	May 6
<i>Nilgiris—</i>				
Goodannie	52	106 5	Extra, 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 6
Mucat	62	102 3	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.
Goodannie	42	101 1	Extra, 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
<i>Nilgiri-Wynaad—</i>				
Suffolk	60	113 9	1, 2, 3 and PB	May 6
Hope	115	110 7	Extra, 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
Helen WPC	36	94 4	1, 2, 3 and PB	May 6
Guynd WPC	80	92 4	Extra 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
Barham	45	89 3	Do.	Do.
Helen	27	88 11	Do.	Do.
<i>Nelliampathies—</i>				
Wallia Warrum	40	99 10	Extra, 1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 13
Anaimaad	75	81 5	1, 2, PB and T	May 6
<i>Shevaroys—</i>				
Kurdior	66	109 1	1, 2, 3, PB and T	May 6
Moulavie	45	99 10	1, 2, PB and T	Do.
Waterford	44	91 3	1, 2, 3, PB and T	Do.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, May 21, 1931

There was nothing fresh to report in the Planting Section and the market remained uninteresting with prices going down without attracting buyers. *Raw Rubber* is no better than 3d. and *Tea* shares are much the same as in our last report.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 3	- 3d.
2. Linggi Plantations	..	£	1	0 10 6	-
3. Malayalam Plantations	.	£	1	0 7 0	-
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	..	£	1	1 5 6	-
6. Poomudi Tea and Rubber	..	2s.	0	0 7½	-
7. Pullangode Rubber	..	£	1	0 5 0	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	..	£	1	0 2 3	- 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	..	£	1	0 12 6	+ 1s.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 7 6	- 4s. 7½d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	..	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	..	6
Halleyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	..	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	..	25
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	..	6
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	3
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	95
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	..	14½
Peria Karamalaia Rs. 15	..	29
" (Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	..	20
Periasholas Rs. 10	..	1
Periyars Rs. 10	..	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	3
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	..	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	80
Vellamalaia (Rs. 15)	..	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the Auction of the 26th instant totalled 2,696,540 lbs. The market for all descriptions must be quoted lower. NUWERA EI IYA AND MATURATA. Selection was rather limited and quality was hardly so good, there was a fair demand but only at a lower range of prices. HIGH GROWN. Quality generally showed a decline, demand was poor and withdrawals became more numerous as the sale proceeded. Where sales were effected quotations registered a drop of 5 to 7 cents. MEDIUM GROWN. Offerings from these districts met with similar enquiry as was in evidence in the case of High grown teas. Considerable irregularity prevailed and buyers ideas were frequently far below sellers. LOW GROWN. Black leaf descriptions met with a fairly steady demand but only at a drop of 2 to 4 cents while stalky undesirable sorts showed a decline of 2 to 3 cents. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. A few good liquorizing parcels met with fair support but for all other kinds a lower market prevailed.

South Indian Teas in Auction of May 12, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates					Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurral	...	...	...	...	12,552	97
Manalaroo	...	...	..	...	3,430	47

RUBBER.—About 117 tons were offered at the Auction held on May 21, 1931. There was a good general demand with a higher range of prices and a continuance of the strong enquiry for all Off grades. There was only a very small quantity of Standard grades in the Auction. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold steadily at 13½ cents showing an advance of one cent on last week's prices. Fair and Off quality Sheets were well supported and showed a similar advance while Inferior quality Sheet was about steady at previous levels. Contract Crepe met with a good demand at 13½ cents throughout showing an improvement of 1½ cents on previous rates. A similar improvement may be quoted for all grades of Off Crepe which met with good competition. There was again a strong market for all grades of Scrap Crepe and with the exception of earth sorts which sold at unchanged rates prices showed a rise of about one cent on last rates. There was no Curly Scrap at all in the sale but the market for this outside the sale may be quoted at about 7 cents for best quality.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

May 17, 1931 to May 30, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	F.	P.	Total.	Stations	F.	P.	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ..	1·78	2·65	4·43
2. Kalthuritty.	3·04	2·00	5·04	25. Kotagiri ..	1·12	2·59	3·71
3. Kallar Bdge.	7·54	4·50	12·04	26. Ootacamund ..	1·00	4·49	5·49
4. Koney ...	3·28	11·44	14·72	27. Yercaud ..	3·08	4·29	7·37
5. Pattanapura.	5·57	13·24	18·81	28. Mango Range ..	8·48	...	...
6. Kumbazha...	2·02	...	...	29. Devala ..	5·17	0·34	5·51
6a Peravanthan.	4·43	...	...	30. Devarshola ..	1·80	1·95	3·75
7. Peermade ...	1·26	7·18	8·44	31. CALICUT ..	3·65	1·50	5·15
8. Twyford ...	1·99	8·44	10·43	32. Kuttiyadi ..	0·05	11·43	11·48
9 V'periyar ..	2·30	7·30	9·60	33. Vayitri ..	1·97	6·51	8·48
10. Kalaar ...	1·49	7·44	8·93	34. Manantoddi ..	2·96	5·47	8·43
11. Chittuvurrai	3·50	8·79	12·29	35. Billigiris ..	5·50	4·55	10·05
12. Bodr'KANUR	0·71	2·17	2·88	36. Sildapur ..	0·60	7·45	8·05
13. COCHIN	3·24	6·94	10·18	37. Ghatt'd Hillia ..	...	7·13	...
14. Mooply ...	9·30	3·43	12·73	38. Pollibetta ..	0·75	5·98	6·73
15. Pachair'alai.	2·84	4·69	7·53	39. Somwarpett. ..	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	4·69	3·21	7·90	40. Saklaspur ..	...	...	...
17. POLLACHIE	1·33	0·97	2·30	41. Kadamanie ..	0·50	4·89	5·39
18. Nell'pathy...	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur ..	1·21	6·15	7·36
19. Karapara ...	...	3·07	...	43. Merthi subgey.	0·41	15·46	15·87
20. Pullengode..	8·45	6·00	14·45	44. Kelagur ..	0·82	2·78	3·60
21. Nilambur ...	3·32	3·56	6·88	45. Durgadbettta.	...	6·86	...
22. Nadiuvattam	2·39	3·98	6·37	46. MANGALORE ..	4·54	5·34	9·88
23. Nilgiri Peak	2·34	0·55	2·89	47. MADRAS ..	0·09	3·19	3·28

F=During the Fortnight.

P=Previously. (i.e., from April 1, 1931).

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 13]

June 20, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

WE are publishing, under our Correspondence columns this week, a letter from Col. W. A. Lee comparing the two processes of *Coffee—Spraying and Dusting* as a preventative for checking fungus disease on Coffee Plantations. In view of the third annual conference of the Mysore planting community held last month at Chikmagalur, when details were given of the havoc that had been caused by certain diseases to the Coffee crop in Mysore, the alternative suggested by Col. Lee will raise many debateable points as at the Conference in question, it was stated that the spraying methods suggested by the State Agricultural Department were only palliatives and did not eradicate the disease.

The quantity of Coffee produced in Mysore, although large, is but a small fraction of the world's production, Brazil enjoying almost a monopoly of it, with Java second.

Mysore Planters therefore, to hold their ground and withstand competition from the rest of the coffee-producing countries, will no doubt concentrate on measures calculated to give them the maximum of production and to achieve this, they will utilize every scrap of information that science can place at their disposal.

From a perusal of Dr. Coleman's report on the work of the Coffee Experimental Farm at Balehonnur, it will be seen that Planters have been enabled to successfully combat such coffee pests and diseases as blackrot and leaf-disease by spraying.

As a result of experimental work carried on at the farm, a large number of Planters, both European and Indian, have taken up spraying and the area sprayed has increased during the past three years from 500 to 5,000 acres, resulting in an increased production of about 10,000 cwt. per acre.

It will therefore be interesting to hear Coffee Planters' views on the alternative method suggested by Col. Lee.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

TEA PRICES

A correspondent writes in *The Times*: 'It has been announced that the 1s. packet of tea has been reduced to 10d. a lb. This sale price is below the cost of production and is therefore on an uneconomic level. Java tea is realizing anything from 2d. to 8d. a lb., at auction, and it may be some consolation to think that in ruining the British growers, the Java producers are ruining themselves. The following figures may be of some interest to discriminating tea drinkers :

(Imports to U. K. in millions of lbs.)			
	Empire	Foreign	Total
1921	380	32	412
1926	346	64	410
1930	367	85	452

'From these figures it will be seen that the Empire percentage has fallen from 92 per cent in 1921 to 81 per cent in 1930.' The writer adds:

All interested in British-grown tea should take the matter up with their respective Members of Parliament, pointing out the urgent necessity for re-imposition of a duty on foreign teas.

TESTING RUBBER FOOTWEAR

An unusual way of earning a living is that of two Liverpool young women—we can give their names : Miss Peggy Davies and Miss Phyllis Robertshaw—who draw a weekly wage (or is this accounted a salaried occupation ?) for walking an average of 12 miles a day, fine or wet, over hard roads and rough country, wearing pedometers on their hips. Their employers are the Dunlop Sports Shoes Factory at Walton, Liverpool (formerly the Liverpool Rubber Co.), and they have been at this work for three years, the object, of course, being the testing of the rubber footwear made by the concern. At one time, we are told, the job became embarrassing. There was a call from abroad for some brilliant vermillion Wellington boots, and the two women testing these were followed by facetious urchins.

The factory is engaged in a strenuous attempt to capture for this country the rubber footwear trade, between 80 and 87 per cent of our rubber footwear being imported. During the past two years, however, the Walton factory has doubled its employees. They now total 1,600, of whom 475 are males. At present 1,280 are working overtime, weekdays and Saturdays, turning out summer wear, and if the weather proves good they will continue to do so until Whitsuntide. The desire of the company, however, is permanently to increase output and employees. The present floor area of the factory is 12,000 square yards, and in another two months splendid extensions will be opened, covering another 5,800 square yards. During the past seven years, over forty million pairs of rubber footwear, costing nearly £6,000,000 have been imported into this country. If the majority of this trade could be captured by home manufacturers, there would, it is calculated, be work for another 6,000 people, in addition to 1,100 more cotton workers. The Walton manufacturers simply ask the public to buy British rubber footwear when the prices are level with foreign. The only undercutting country at present is Japan.

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TEA AND ITS RIVAL

COLOMBO, FRIDAY, MAY 29.—The announcement that the National Coffee Roasters' Association is raising a million pounds as an advertising fund to cover a period of three years, is of special interest to the tea industry. It should either be an incentive to further efforts to push tea in the United States or lead to the abandoning of the America propaganda project as far as Ceylon is concerned. It has to be realized that the United States are pre-eminently a coffee-consuming country. Statistics show that the *per capita* consumption of coffee there, is over fifteen times that of tea. Despite the economic stress of the past year, the consumption of coffee has been increasing steadily. Yet the industry is faced with a crisis graver than that which confronts tea. Over-production has reached menacing proportions. The International Coffee Congress convened for this month had to face the choice between the familiar problems of restricting output and expanding consumption. Yesterday's Chicago message suggests that the view of those who favour a *Drink-More-Coffee* campaign is prevailing to an extent which must cause some anxiety to those concerned for the future prosperity of tea. If the advertising scheme is to be confined to the United States alone, a million pounds is a large sum to invest in it. Ceylon's proposed tea cess may yield less than £40,000 in a year, and this only shows the importance of securing co-operation among all tea-producing countries and raising a sum substantial enough to prove an effective counterblast to the coffee propaganda fund.

The arguments of those who despair of tea-making any real headway in America may be strengthened by the efforts being made to consolidate the position of coffee in that country. On the other hand, they must reckon with the fact that consumption of the favoured commodity has by no means reached saturation point in the United States. If it had, there would be no point in launching a costly advertising scheme to expand the market. There is clearly a gap to be filled. Why should it not be filled by tea? And if it is Ceylon tea, all the better. It must also be borne in mind that

the coffee trade will attempt to capture other and hitherto-unexploited markets. There are countries where virtually no coffee-drinkers exist. Russia is one of them, and then there are China and Japan which may be trained to develop a taste for the Brazilian beverage. Is the tea industry to stand by and lose these markets which are now within its grasp? Belgium, Holland, France and Norway are other countries which have fallen behind in coffee consumption and which may be won back for want of rival enterprise on behalf of tea.

The recent tea report of the Imperial Economic Committee urged India and Ceylon in unite to joint action against 'other interests which have recently been spending large sums of money in propaganda hostile to tea and such.' But tea and coffee need not always be out to cut each other's throats. The development of wider markets for both products side by side in the same countries is not impracticable. Comparative tables of world consumption reveal a great disparity in the proportion of coffee-drinking and tea-drinking in many lands and there is no reason why a more just balance should not be preserved with benefit to both industries, but it is important that they should compete on equal terms. While tea propaganda proposals are a long time taking shape, coffee interests appear to be much more alive to the urgency of the situation. Tea may thus be handicapped by starting late and having more lost ground to recover than its go-ahead rival. As a definite move to launch the tea advertising campaign, the decision of the Ceylon Association in London, which was cabled out to Ceylon yesterday, comes not a day too soon.—*Ceylon Observer*.

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BRAZIL COFFEE

Extracts from Messrs. Nortz & Co.'s (New York) Circular

[We publish below extracts from a Circular issued by Messrs. Nortz & Co., New York, dated May 1, 1931, for which we are indebted to Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut]

As is well known, the present crop was considered as almost a total failure, being estimated at about 2,000,000 bags for Rio and 7,000,000 bags for Santos. The estimated outturn of the present crop and the known figures of the past crops afford therefore a pretty safe basis of what we have to consider nowadays, in Brazil, as a small crop of coffee and a large one.

		Small Crop 1930-31	Large Crop 1929-30
Rio	...	... 3,000,000 bags	5,500,000 bags
Santos	...	... 9,500,000 ,,	22,000,000 ,,
Victoria	...	... 1,250,000 ,,	1,750,000 ,,
Parana	...	... 350,000 ,,	750,000 ,,
Bahia	...	... 300,000 ,,	400,000 ,,
Pernambuco	...	... 100,000 ,,	100,000 ,,
		14,500,000 ,,	30,500,000

An average crop in Brazil nowadays means therefore about 22,000,000 bags of coffee, against possible requirements of Brazilian coffee of about 16,000,000 bags. The planting of cereals between the coffee trees may have exercised, to some extent, an unfavourable influence on the output. This is compensated however, by the numberless young trees which have been planted during the last five years and which are now gradually coming into bearing.

The following table will show the proportionate part of the respective contributions of the different coffee-growing centres of the world to its requirements of coffee during the last thirty years.

	Sao Paulo	Other Brazilian States	Other Countries
1900-10	... 53 per cent	24·2 per cent	22·8 per cent
1910-20	... 53·8 "	19·5 "	26·7 "
1920-25	... 45·9 "	21·5 "	32·6 "
1925-30	... 42·1 "	23·3 "	34·6 "

From this year on, the proportionate part will be about as follows :—

Sao Paulo	... 34·7 per cent of new coffee
Sao Paulo	... 8·2 " of old coffees (bankers' coffee)
Rest of Brazil	... 22·4 " [to be liquidated
Other Mild Countries.	34·7 "

These figures need no comment. They reflect the fatal consequences of Sao Paulo's interferences in the coffee market and in the distribution of its principal produce as well as the way other coffee-growing countries have benefited by it. They speak their own language.

We wish to emphasise once more that if the present output of mild producing countries was bigger, consumption would give such coffee the preference. There is a surplus of Brazilian coffee and a shortage of mild coffee. It is not a question of preparation alone but of the quality of the soil just as for instance high grade Bordeaux or Burgundy wines could not be grown in the Southern Provinces of France—the Midi.

* * * *The New Brazilian Coffee Tax.*—The Interstate Coffee Council gave notice Tuesday that a new tax of 10 shillings, subject to a reduction or suppression by a majority vote or to an increase, was to be placed on each bag of coffee exported and that the new measure was to be in force as of the 29th instant. The tax to stand four years and the receipts are to be used by an autonomous council for the purchase of excess production with a view to its destruction. 100,000 bags to be kept for propaganda purposes in new markets. The council to be created will have to study and probably ask for reductions of tariffs and of freight by rail and steamer. They will keep the public informed of their activities. The tax in kind is to be abolished and States not yet possessing 50 million trees, may plant to that limit. The latter clause probably concerns Parana and Goyaz and possibly Santa Catarina which State, although it lies in a southerly position, seems never to have had a frost as yet.

For almost two weeks numerous cables predicted this tax—some mentioned a figure as high as 30 shillings. They were instrumental in bringing about a sharp advance of prices and heavy fluctuations into which we need not enter here as they would only have a retrospective value anyway.

The new situation which has been created, calls for a dispassionate examination of facts. An additional tax of 10 shillings on coffee corresponds to an increase in price of 1·85 a pound and it is natural that such a tax, imposed, so to speak, at a moment's notice, must upset market conditions, at least temporarily, and be reflected in prices to some extent but what will happen then? First, who is going to pay this tax in the long run—the producer or the consumer? In an article with strictly limited sources of supply—we do not mean artificially but through limited production—we would be inclined to say the consumer but when the producer who will pay. The weak point of the whole situation is taxation by itself cannot do away with the consequences of the existence of hundreds of millions of coffee trees, in excess of requirements and that the very effect of the new policy adopted, the using of the proceeds of the new tax for the buying up of crop surpluses and probably also the manipulation of markets must encourage the belief among planters that, whatever happens, the Government will find a way out for them and that all they have to do is to produce as much coffee as possible and keep their plantations in as high a state of efficiency as they can. Let it sink deep in our minds that there is not only an abundant supply of cheap labour in Brazil nowadays which has never existed before but that currency prices paid for coffee to planters, we mean real planters and not gentlemen farmers and owners of unproductive estates, are still considered by many of them as perfectly satisfactory. The fact is that nowadays, of all the different commodities, coffee is the one that pays the best and is probably the only one which it pays to produce. There are still enormous tracts of undeveloped coffee land and many hands willing to cultivate it because of all the operations connected with coffee-growing, the laying out of new plantations, creating new land for the growing of cereals, is the one which is the most attractive. The drawback of the new measure is that it aims directly at making the over-production of coffee permanent instead of doing away with it. Therefore, being given the figures contained in our last market letter, showing a possible excess of 8 million bags for the next crop and perhaps as much for the crop to follow, it is practically certain that the new tax will, even theoretically be unable to cope with additional surpluses to be expected and that the question of what to do with them will come to the fore again with a vengeance. Let us emphasise clearly that from past experience we do not believe in the possibility of enforcing laws prohibiting new planting in a country like Brazil composed mainly of coffee planters, where everybody is interested in evading them. We also do not believe in the destruction of millions of bags of coffee. There are some things from which human nature recoils even though they may be technically possible as is shown by the history of all power based on coercion or worse. The question also arises what will be the reaction to the latest fancy of the principal coffee-growers who contemplate an increase of 20 per cent in the price of coffee just to provide funds to destroy another 20 per cent at home, at the same time asking for reductions of tariffs and freight rates from others. Consumers' leagues, representing as they do the housewives—a very influential element, are not to be trifled with and are always happy to find a pretext which will enable them to show their usefulness. They will probably take official notice of the recent events above described, and in view of the present existing economic depression and unemployment may find sympathetic listeners in legislative circles.

It is impossible at present to draw any definite conclusions from such a situation except that it is essentially artificial and unsound.

SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Thirteenth Annual General Meeting of Members of the South Indian Association in London was held on Monday, the 18th May, 1931, at the offices of the Association, 21, Mincing Lane, London, E. C. 3.

Mr. J. Mackie (Chairman of the Association) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. W. H. Pease) having read the notice convening the Meeting and the Auditors' Report, the Chairman said :—

'The Report is a fairly full one and I do not think there is much more that I can add to it.'

As you know, the position of our industries has not improved in any way since I addressed you at this time last year—rather the reverse.

The stock of Tea in London at the end of 1930 was 261½ million lbs. and to-day is some 242½ million lbs., as compared with 220 millions at the end of 1928 and 260½ millions at the end of 1929.

The average price realised for South Indian Teas over the last three years is as follows :—

	d.
1928	... 1/3·40
1929	... 1/3·35
1930	... 1/2·52
and 1931 to date.	1/1·28

while there is every indication that we will see prices, especially for common teas, much lower still.

Until production is drastically curtailed, or the world's trade improves, I am afraid there can be no question of any improvement in prices.

It is to be regretted that it was not possible to continue restriction of output for 1931. The lack of support given to the Scheme by South India as a whole was most disappointing, and compared most unfavourably with the whole-hearted manner in which Northern India and Ceylon responded to it.

I referred last year to the efforts that were being made in Ceylon to raise a cess for propaganda purposes. I have attended a few meetings on your behalf, along with representatives of the Indian Tea Association and the Ceylon Association in London, and it is to be hoped that Ceylon will soon be in a position to come forward and join us in our Advertising Schemes.

Personally, I think the ideal thing would be to get our Dutch friends to join us as well, and simply advertise Tea as Tea. There may be difficulties in the way of the Dutch coming in, but I do not think they are unsurmountable, and just imagine what could be done with £220,000 per annum if we had Ceylon and the Dutch in the Scheme as compared with a little over £100,000 at present. Of course, so long as we plough a lonely furrow, the only thing we can do in justice to ourselves is to endeavour to boost our Emblem Tea but with a comprehensive Scheme as I suggest, and with more than double the money to work with, I am perfectly certain the results that would accrue by advertising Tea as Tea, irrespective of where it came from, would far outstrip anything that has been done in the past.

With regard to Rubber, the position has gone from bad to worse, and should present prices continue a little longer, I should not be surprised to see the whole of South India shut down. As it is, very large areas have gone out of tapping and labour forces have been disbanded.

Talk, generally inspired from Amsterdam, of co-operation between British and Dutch Growers for restriction of output, has induced a great many Companies to continue producing more or less full out, and at a loss, when otherwise they would have closed down wholly or partially. I think everyone realises now that such co-operation is practically impossible, and even although our Dutch friends came forward with what they might consider a water-tight Scheme, most British Growers would, I believe, now much rather let the ordinary economic forces put the Industry on its feet again.

The export of Coffee from South India fell by some 14,000 cwts. but this commodity is also still over-produced, and I am afraid most of our Coffee Planters are doing little more than make ends meet.

In presenting the Report for 1929, I referred to the ever-increasing expenditure of the Association in South India, and from the Report before you to-day you will note the very considerable savings that have been effected in the various cesses and I am sure you will agree that this is most satisfactory and has helped, in no small measure, to reduce our costs of production.

The position regarding the Tea Scientific Department and the suggested affiliation with the Tea Research Institute of Ceylon, is fully set out in the Report. We all realise the great importance of scientific work and the benefits the Tea Industry has derived from Research, but there is a limit to what we can afford to pay for such work, and in agreeing to a cess of six annas per acre I think we have just gone as far as we possibly can at present. If the proposed additions to the South Indian Staff is deferred until times are better, there should be no difficulty in working at 6 annas.

With regard to the Mundakayam Rubber Research Station, I sincerely trust that it will be possible to carry on after the end of this year, but if subscribers insist on resigning, it is difficult to know where the money for the necessary upkeep is to come from, unless the general Reserve Fund of the U.P.A.S.I. is used for this purpose. I am sure we will be prepared to give our best consideration to any feasible scheme for the continuance of the Station which the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I. may care to put before us.

You have, no doubt, all seen the reports of various Meetings of Planters that have been held in different districts with the object of getting general agreement in reducing labour rates and in curtailing certain other expenditure, and while it is gratifying to note that very material reductions have been made in some districts, it is to be regretted that there has not been more unanimity. It is to be hoped that those who have, so far, taken an active part in convening meetings, and who deserve our best thanks, will continue their efforts to bring the Estates in the different districts into line. The times were never so opportune as they are at present for a general reduction in labour rates, and there cannot be any Estate Managers in South India, however favourably they may have been placed up to now, but must be glad to get their cost of production down. In fact, it is imperative in most cases if they are to make ends meet. (*Applause*).

I now beg to propose the following Resolution:—

'THAT the proceedings of the General Committee during the past year be confirmed, that the Report be adopted and that the Accounts, as audited, be passed.'

The Vice-Chairman (Mr. W. Lyall Grant).—I beg to second the resolution proposed by the Chairman.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

The Chairman.—I have pleasure in proposing that Mr. J. R. H. Pinckney, C.B.E., and Mr. H. R. Lockie be elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively for the ensuing year.

Mr. J. S. Nicolls.—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The resolution was unanimously passed.

Mr. W. Lyall Grant, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services during the year and for presiding at this meeting, said: Owing to the sad death of Mr. Lucking, Mr. Mackie has had rather a long term of service. During the past year the position of our industries has been such that he has had to deal with a great number of questions and he has had much more work to do than his predecessors. We all know how ably he has dealt with the work of the Association and we are grateful to him. Major Herbert Edgington seconded the resolution which was unanimously passed.

The proceeding then terminated.

J. MACKIE,

Chairman.

W. H. PEASE,

Secretary.

21, MINCING LANE, E.C. 3.

LONDON, May 19, 1931.

BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA A YEAR OF EXCEPTIONAL DIFFICULTIES

SATISFACTORY RESULTS

BRITISH TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA

IMPORTANCE OF THE PRICE FACTOR

POSITION IN BRAZIL

Mr. R. J. Hose's Address

THE YEAR IN BRAZIL

For Brazil the year 1930 was one of such exceptional difficulty and anxiety as to be, I think, without precedent in the history of that country. The continuation of the stock market crisis in the United States and its widespread effects accentuated the difficulties with which Brazil had been struggling, contributing to a further collapse in the price of coffee—with its inevitable reaction on the rate of exchange—the gradual paralysis of commerce and industry, and the rapid growth of dissatisfaction among the Brazilians with the policy and methods of their Central Government. The result, as you know, was the outbreak of the revolution in October of last year. At first, it was feared that the struggle would be protracted, but the

wisdom and patriotism of the leading citizens brought about a speedy settlement and the prompt restoration of order by the Provisional Government under the able leadership of Dr. Getulio Vargas.

THE COFFEE SITUATION

Following that change of Government, it was not to be expected that there could be any sudden betterment in conditions ; the investigation of the financial position alone of so vast a country, must necessarily occupy an appreciable time and preclude the possibility of spectacular results, but it is abundantly clear that the new Administration is pressing on with its work with unabating vigour. Coffee is by far the largest item in the list of exports from Brazil—last year it represented about 70 per cent. of the value of her total export trade—and it was therefore to this problem, aggravated by low prices and heavy stocks, that the new Government had principally and primarily to address itself. The conditions of the £20,000,000 Coffee Realization Loan, to which I referred last year, continue to be adhered to rigorously, and it is satisfactory to note that for the ten months to the 30th ultimo the total yield of the 3s. a bag tax on port entries was £1,723,475 out of the £1,905,000 per annum minimum from that source provided for in the loan.

Since the issue of the loan, however, it has been found necessary to take other steps to cope with the coffee problem, and the Provisional Government has recently decided to purchase all the coffee in store in Brazil as on June 30 next, with the exception of that purchased by the State of Sao Paulo in connection with the Realization Loan. The purchase price is to be based on 60 milreis a bag of 60 kilos for type Santos No. 5, and the coffee so purchased will be disposed of gradually over a period of up to ten years. Needless to say, the scheme does not clash, in any way, with the conditions of the Realization Loan.

The first step in the new plan is the formidable one of classifying the coffee, and this has already been commenced. A further step has been taken by the agreement made, with the approval of the Provisional Government, between the five Brazilian States interested in coffee, to levy an additional tax of 10s. a bag of 60 kilos, for a period of up to four years, to provide funds for the purchase and destruction of surplus coffee. From the comprehensive nature of these measures you will appreciate that the Provisional Government is making every effort to cope with this difficult and vast problem, the solution of which will go far to restore the prosperity of the country.

And our Sao Paulo branch cabled on same date as follows :—

11TH MAY.—Government Coffee Purchase Scheme still in initial stage ; 2,500,000 bags have been classified, but no marked effect noticeable yet, although coffee interests should feel relief shortly. Export tax, which substitutes taxes on new plantings and in kind, now in force at 10s., which is stated to be sufficient to eliminate estimated surplus. Money market is very easy with weak tendency. Funds difficult to use. Textiles and dry goods : the present is a moment of expectancy, the outlook being more optimistic owing to promise of new money upcountry from coffee scheme and to fall in exchange which renders imported articles prohibitive. Commercial situation remains dull and the position of many importers is difficult.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—SRIVILLIPUTTUR DIVISION

The Tirumangalam Agency will be closed and transferred to Madura from June 10, 1931.

The address of the Agent will be.—

Mr. T. Kondiah Naidu, Agent, Labour Department, U.P.A.S.I., West Masi Street, Madura.

SRIVILLIPUTTUR,
June 9, 1931.

A. H. MACKIE,
Superintendent.

DISTRICT NOTES

WYNAAD

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Wynaad Planters' Association

held at the Meppadi Club on May 27, 1931, at 2-30 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. R. N. W. Jodrell (*Chairman*), B. M. Behr, E. R. Peachy, G. Rattray, W. A. L. Marr, R. W. M. Hay,—Haig,—Price, J. A. Gwynne, T. E. Howe, I. W. Finlayson, E. E. Eyre, R. P. N. Swayne, H. S. Lake, C. E. A. Ewart, W. R. Grove, D. Bate and P. A. Naylor (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor :

Mr. G. Bayzand.

1. The notice calling the meeting was read.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting held on April 8, 1931, were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

3. Mr. Jodrell spoke as follows in his report for the past year :—

'GENTLEMEN,

As our Honorary Secretary will give a general survey of the activities of our Association during the past year, there is no need for me to go over the same ground.

I feel I can do little good by making reference to the present somewhat black outlook for the market of our main product—Tea. Although prices during the past season have been fair, we already know of a recent break in them. We are told that the position is likely to become worse—that may be so—but I refuse to believe that ultimately the market for our teas will not improve and again become favourable to the producers.

Efforts made to bring about a scheme for restricting output this season have failed, and it is disappointing to note that the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not be persuaded to impose a preferential duty against teas of foreign origin being imported into Great Britain; whilst both or either of these measures would have eased the position for the time being, neither of them can be described as a cure for the present slump. Increased consumption is the rational and permanent cure and I am convinced that for us, the remedy lies in our concentrating all our efforts on expanding the sale and consumption of tea in India. We have an almost unlimited

market at our doors and we should press, on every possible occasion, for more energetic steps to be taken to promote the consumption of Indian teas in India.

As we have a fairly lengthy Agenda before us, I will not detain you any longer and it only remains for me to thank you for having given me the honour of being your Chairman and to ask you to join me in recording a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Naylor for the work he has put in as our Honorary Secretary.

4. Honorary Secretary's Report was submitted as follows :

'MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my report for the past season. I took over the Honorary Secretaryship in March last, and as I have only been acting as Honorary Secretary for just over two months I must ask your indulgence for errors of omission.

Meetings.—There were four General Meetings and two Committee Meetings held during the year. The average attendance at General Meetings was sixteen.

Membership.—The subscribing acreage for the year was 11,289 acres made up as follows :—

Tea	...	...	...	10,894 acres
Coffee	...	...	...	255 "
Pepper	...	...	...	80 "
Rubber	...	...	...	60 ..
				11,289 ..

There are twenty-four subscribing estates and one personal member.

Season and Crop.—The total crop for the season was 5,541,276 lbs., a decrease of 357,603 lbs. as compared with the previous year. This reduction in the crop is on account of most of the subscribing area having adhered to the Restriction Scheme. The season opened with a severe drought period which effectually restricted crop but with a light South-west monsoon and good late North-east rains the rest of the season was favourable. The market which had been depressed by over-production was not a favourable one for our class of teas and now that restriction has been withdrawn, the outlook is depressing.

The acreage under the other three products is small, and I have no figures of the crops harvested.

Labour.—Labour has been sufficient for requirements, on most estates.

Health.—The health of the District has been quite fair during the year and the anti-malaria measures which are carried out on most estates, and have now been carried out for some years, have undoubtedly been beneficial to the general health.

Roads.—The work on the Chundale-Choladi section of the Calicut-Ootacamund main road has progressed very satisfactorily and the whole of this section is now in excellent order.

The road from Chundale to Sultan's Battery was not kept in good repair during the year and two of the bridges on this road were in a dangerous condition for a considerable period—this matter was taken up by the Association, and our District Board Member, and an amount was sanctioned for necessary repairs to be carried out.

Water tax.—Representations made for the abolition of the levy on water taken for use in Tea Factories, etc. have been successful. G. O. No. MS. 862 lays down that no charge should be levied for the use of water taken from streams in the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynnaads which were not separately demarcated and registered as Government poramboke but were included in the adjoining holdings and assessed accordingly.

Accounts and Budget.—I submit the audited accounts for past season for your approval. You will see that there is a small excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 90-0-4 but under expenditure there are non-recurring items amounting to approximately Rs. 70.

The amount that was on fixed deposit was Rs. 1,000 and this sum is again being deposited for a period of a year and will earn interest at the rate of 4½ per cent per annum.

The balance at the Association's credit with Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co. Ltd., at March 31, 1931, was Rs. 807-3-4.

The Budget for the coming season is estimated to show an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 113-4-0 but the deficit can be more than covered by savings which may be effected during the year. The Association has accumulated funds of Rs. 1,807-3-4 to meet this excess of expenditure. Raising the subscription to 2 annas 3 pies per acre would yield a further Rs. 177-15-3.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman for his assistance and advice during my brief term of office as Honorary Secretary and now place my resignation in your hands.'

The above report was adopted.

5. *Accounts for season 1930-31.*—These were submitted.

It was proposed by Mr. R. P. N. Swayne and seconded by Mr. J. A. Gwynne that the accounts be passed.

Carried unanimously

6. *Election of Office Bearers.*—The undermentioned were elected by ballot to hold office during the year 1931-32 :—

Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell	...	Chairman.
,, I. W. Finlayson	...	Honorary Secretary.
,, R. P. N. Swayne	...	
,, B. M. Behr	...	Committee.
,, F. H. Farmer	...	

W.P.A. Labour Committee.—The above with the addition of the Chairman and Honorary Secretary.

7. *Auditors.*—Messrs. N. C. Rajagopal & Co. were re-elected as Auditors for the ensuing season.

8. *Budget for 1931-32.*—The Budget, as drawn up, was recommended for acceptance.

Proposed by Mr. B. M. Behr and seconded by Mr. D. Bate that the Budget for season 1931-32 be passed.

Carried unanimously

9. Report of Delegate to General Committee Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. at Coonoor on April 20, 1931.

Mr. Jodrell informed the meeting of what transpired and referred to the main subjects that came up for discussion at these meetings. After answering one or two questions regarding certain points arising from his

remarks, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Jodrell for his able representation of our Association.

10. Sanction of Delegate's expenses attending above meetings. The meeting unanimously passed the account rendered for payment.

11. *Water-tax*.—The result of representations made for the abolition of this levy was recorded with satisfaction and the letter from Mr. Waddington, dated April 23, quoting G.O. No. MS. 862 of April 21, was read, and a vote of thanks to the Political Department for bringing this matter to a satisfactory conclusion was unanimously extended by the Meeting. The Honorary Secretary wrote a letter accordingly to the Planting Member, Madras Legislative Council.

12. *Meppadi Sanitation*.—The subject was discussed as to ways and means of continuing and improving sanitation in the Meppadi village, and a letter from the President, District Board of Malabar, dated May 21, 1931, under the heading—*Sanitation : Meppadi village improvement, Construction of drains*—was recorded.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Eyre and seconded by Mr. Hay :—

'It is proposed that a Committee be elected to ascertain from the Meppadi inhabitants the extent, and on what basis they will subscribe towards the sauitation of Meppadi Village.'

Carried unanimously

13. *Alteration of U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department Rules*.—The necessity for these alterations, now that Labour Committees have been abolished, was explained by the Chairman.

Proposed from the Chair that these alterations be accepted.

Carried unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE.—

14. *Roads. Chundale-Sultan's Battery Road*.—Read letter from the President, Malabar District Board, dated May 21, 1931, notifying sanction of money to carry out urgent repairs to bridges on this road and also advising that he would try and persuade the Board to sanction a sufficient allotment to put the road into proper order during the current year.

Cooly Wages.—The letter from the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association, dated April 22, 1931, having been circularized to all members, was taken as read.

15. *Other Competent Business*.—Mr. H. Waddington, Secretary, U.P.A.S.I.—Retirement.

Mr. Gwynne addressed the Meeting and spoke of Mr. Waddington's most valuable services to the Planting Industry, mentioning that he was at one time Planting in the Wynaad and his untiring energy and able Secretarship of the U.P.A.S.I. from which post he was now retiring after long and efficient service. The Meeting carried with acclamation the remarks made and the wish that Mr. and Mrs. Waddington would long enjoy health and happiness in their retirement. These remarks were endorsed by Mr. Behr who also spoke of Mr. Waddington's record of service in the interests of Planting.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

R. N. W. JODRELL,
Chairman.

P. A. NAYLOR,
Honorary Secretary.

**Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at Meppadi Club on
May 27, 1931, at 2 p.m.**

Present :

Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell, *Chairman*; Messrs. R. P. N. Swayne, H. S. Lake and P. A. Naylor, *Honorary Secretary*.

1. Alteration of U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department Rules.

These alterations necessitated by the abolition of Labour Control Committees were passed unanimously.

It was resolved that these amendments be recommended to the General Meeting of the W. P. A. for acceptance.

2. *S.I.P.B. Fund*.—Correspondence regarding a possible claim on the Fund through this Association was read and recorded.

FINANCE.—

3. *Correspondence. W. P. A. Deposit*.—The Committee authorized the Honorary Secretary to place the Rs. 1,000 on Fixed Deposit at 4½ per cent with the Eastern Bank for one year from June 1, 1931, in accordance with quotation received from Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut, dated May 16, 1931.

District Board.—Correspondence regarding European representation on the Malabar District Board was read and recorded.

Coffee—Stephanodrres.—Letter from the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., dated May 8, 1931, advising prohibition of import into India of Coffee plants, Coffee seed and Coffee beans except in accordance with Government of India Notification No. 534 Agri., dated April 1, 1931, was recorded with satisfaction.

4. *Competent Business*.—The Draft Budget for 1931–32 was discussed and it was decided to recommend same for acceptance at the Annual General Meeting.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

R. N. W. JODRELL,
Chairman.

P. A. NAYLOR,
Honorary Secretary

SOUTH TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the South Travancore Planters' Association held
at the Quilon Club on Saturday, 30th May, 1931, at 10·0 a.m.**

Present :

Messrs. H. R. C. Parker (*Chairman*), L. C. Cockaday, E. T. C. Farr, L. J. Polgreen, J. R. N. Pryde, A. P. D. Lodge (*Honorary Secretary*), and by *Proxy*, F. Hawkings, E. Hall, T. L. Jackson, L. A. Lampard, A. W. Leslie, T. W. U. Park, F. H. Powell, C. E. Smith.

Owing to the absence of Mr. W. Gillespie, Mr. H. R. C. Parker was requested to take the Chair. He informed the meeting that letters had been received from the following members regretting their inability to attend the meeting :—Messrs. F. Hawkings, T. L. Jackson, A. W. Leslie, T. W. U. Park, F. H. Powell.

1. The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

2. The minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 21st February, 1931, having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, were taken as read. Proposed from the Chair that these be confirmed. *Carried.*

3. *U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Meeting at Coonoor.*—Mr. A.P.D. Lodge submitted his report as follows :—

' I duly attended the budget meeting at the Coonoor Club on 21st April, 1931, a full account of which appeared in the *Planters' Chronicle* of 9th May, 1931.

The Committee had been authorized to give the necessary instructions to your delegate, and there were several matters which I was instructed to bring up.

Regarding the cess for the Rubber Experimental Station, this had been increased from 3 as. per the R.A.C. estimate, to 3½ as. This was due almost entirely to the Auditor insisting on full depreciation. Although no definite promise could be made, the member for rubber, Mr. Walmsley, informed me that he considered it probable that 3 annas only would be called up.

Regarding the "loan to rubber", objection was taken to this expression. I discussed this at the meeting, and my resolution to the effect that it should be altered to "special withdrawal from reserve account rubber" was carried.

It is worth noting that Coffee and Tea men were entirely sympathetic regarding the desperate position of rubber, and that almost all the discussion regarding this withdrawal was by Rubber men themselves.

Regarding the pension of Rs. 500 to Mr. H. Waddington, although our Committee fully appreciated the very useful services received from Mr. Waddington they objected to the granting of a pension not only on principle, but as it could not really be afforded at the present depressed times, I was instructed to oppose it. Before the meeting, however, it was learnt that a letter had been received in which the S.I.A. agreed without any reservation to granting it. This rather upset my attempt to oppose it, and I therefore refrained from voting for or against.

A long resolution *re* touring of the Coffee Scientific Officer, expenses of which were to be borne from reserve, was withdrawn.

I seconded a resolution that the Annual General Meeting of the Upasi be held away from Bangalore, for reasons of economy in delegates' expenses, but this was lost.

Regarding affiliation of the Tea Scientific station with Ceylon, I was instructed to ask for this to be referred back to District Associations unless the cess would not show any increase. However, it was agreed that 5½ annas would most probably meet all costs, and a budgeted figure of 6 annas was therefore agreed to.

I seconded a resolution from Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell to the effect that the I.T.A. be informed of the probable discontinuation of subscriptions at an early date, and this matter will have to be brought up for consideration at the Bangalore meeting.'

A letter from the Anamalai Planters' Association dated May 21, 1931, dealing with the pension granted to Mr. H. Waddington was read and the matter discussed at length. In the absence of any information regarding the results of the U.P.A.S.I. meeting held at Madras on the 25th instant, nothing definite could be decided, but the meeting agreed with the Anamalai views, and the Committee was instructed to take what steps it considered necessary.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Lodge for attending the meeting was passed, and the report adopted.

4. *Sri Mulam Popular Assembly*.—Mr. E. T. C. Farr read the following report :—

"Gentlemen—On behalf of this Association which I have the honour to serve, I addressed the Dewan on two subjects at the recent Session—My first representation was the early Abolition of Tolls as in respect of all vehicles and that Petrol Tax or Vehicular Taxation be substituted.

I brought forward the following reasons in support of this request.

(1) That free circulation of Vehicles of all descriptions and in the case of Motors, rapid transport, are most important factors for the development in road communications. The Motor Car is now becoming an essential in the general improvement of the amenities of life not only in Towns but in the Villages.

(2) That in respect to Motor Vehicles—the number of Motor Buses, Lorries, and Cars have more than doubled in the last three years.

(3) That the method of collecting Tolls is now quite out of date, and has been abolished in most Countries and in nearly all the Provinces of India except in the case of Bridges, Ferries or new Roads.

(4) That the system of farming or auctioning the right to collect Tolls means that a percentage of the money realised, often as much as 25 per cent. or more, goes to the Contractor and not to the Authorities responsible for the Roads.

(5) That it is believed that in some Districts and Municipalities only a small proportion of the nett Income derived from Tolls is spent on the roads.

In conclusion I said that I believed I was correct in saying that Government had definitely promised us some time back that, when and if the abolition of Tolls came into force in British India, Travancore would follow suit—and it would appear now that Madras will shortly be passing such a Bill—(in fact it has now been passed.)

The Dewan replying said that the question was receiving the attention of Government. The question of introducing a tax on the vehicle, instead of collecting tolls, was also engaging the attention of the Madras Government, and the Travancore Government was investigating the matter as well.

The second subject I brought forward was ‘the Reduction of Tax on Rubber Lands’. I pointed out that this Tax was introduced when large profits were being made in Rubber in other countries.

When it was thought at the time that the Rubber Estates opened, or then being opened, in Travancore would prove superprofitable Investments, and in consequence the Tax was levied at Rs. 2 per acre which is a good deal higher compared to taxes on other products.

It was however more than evident that Rubber was not going to prove such a profitable Investment. This was particularly so in South India, where yields are poor in comparison, and where it has now become literally a fight for existence. Many Estates in fact have closed down altogether.

That the Agents, the Rubber Planter and his subordinates have in the last few months had to make considerable sacrifices in salaries and bonuses etc.—and that nearly all works necessary for the general upkeep and proper maintenance of the Estates are being curtailed or cut out altogether.

Under the above circumstances, it would seem that the Planters were more than justified in asking for a reduction in the tax from Rs. 2 to Re. 1

per acre, or if Government cannot see their way to this that they allow a remission in the payment of the Tax until Rubber has recovered.

The Dewan, in reply, said that consequent on general economic depression, all sorts of produce suffered and not Rubber alone. Government were considering the possibilities of doing something substantial to alleviate the trouble. When that question was taken up, their representation would duly be considered. The present conditions were not expected to last for ever. A contingency might arise when the present depression might disappear, and Rubber, along with other sorts of produce, might brighten up. He added in spite of all that the representation would be duly considered.'

A vote of thanks to Mr. Farr was passed, and the report adopted.

5. *Rubber Advisory Committee*.—Mr. H. R. C. Parker, who took over the duties of district representative from Mr. Gillespie in March, gave a report on the work done during the past season, and discussed in detail the proposals made by Mr. H. Walmesley regarding the future of the Scientific station.

Mr. Polgreen expressed the opinion that the UPASI should approach all rubber interests to ascertain definitely how many of them would remain in the Association after 1931/2, in accordance with the resolutions passed at the meeting of rubber interests at Cochin on the 7th February. Definite information on this point would greatly facilitate decisions regarding the future of the Mundakayam Mycological Station. To this the meeting agreed, and the Honorary Secretary instructed to write to Mr. Walmesley accordingly.

The opinion of the meeting was, further, that Mr. Taylor's services be dispensed with under the terms of his agreement, and that if possible, provided that no cess was levied for the Station for the year 1932/3, Mr. Walmesley's proposals regarding the running of the Scientific station be agreed to.

6. *Travancore Combined P. A.*.—Mr. Farr read extracts from the minutes of the meeting held at Quilon on February 28th 1931, which were published in full in the *Planters' Chronicle* of the 14th March 1931. Mr. Farr was thanked for his services.

7. *Accounts for the year 1930-1*.—The Honorary Secretary read the Auditor's certificate, and explained how savings had been made on the budgeted figures to the extent of approximately Rs. 650. After a few questions had been answered, Mr. J. R. N. Pryde proposed, and Mr. Farr seconded that the accounts be adopted.

Carried.

8. *Budget for the year 1931-2*.—The Honorary Secretary explained a few items in the budget, and stated that every endeavour had been made to effect economy. The cess was reduced to 3 pies against 1 anna for the previous year, and this left a balance in hand of approximately the same as that budgetted for the year 1930-31. Mr. Polgreen expressed the opinion that expenses to delegates might possibly be reduced, and that the committee might see what steps could be taken to do this. He also proposed that the Writer's allowance be cut down from Rs. 25 to Rs. 20 per month. Mr. Parr seconded this proposal, which was carried. It was also agreed that the items 'S. I. Benevolent Fund' be deleted from the budget.

Mr. Pryde then proposed, and Mr. Farr seconded that, subject to the above reservations, the budget be accepted. *Carried.*

9. *Committee's Report for the year 1930-31.*—The Honorary Secretary read the following report :—

'Membership.—As at March 31, 1931 membership consisted of 25 estates, 28 Personal members, 28 Honorary members, being an increase of 2 Personal and a reduction of 1 Honorary member.

Subscribing Acreage.—Under Tea was 7,953 and under Rubber 13,967, an increase of 421 and 224 respectively. Provisional notice of resignation has been received from 15,522 acres Tea and Rubber, and definite resignation from 3,259.

If the former occurs, the subscribing acreage for next year will only comprise 3,347 acres of rubber, and it is hoped that the market for both Tea and Rubber will improve so as to keep these areas in the Association.

UPASI Labour Department.—At the close of the year only 1,521 acres were subscribing, against 4,359 last year, and this area has now sent in its resignation, leaving 622 acres subscribing for 2 quarters only.

Committee.—The following Committee was elected at the Annual General meeting held in May, 1930 :—

Chairman ... Mr. W. Gillespie.

Honorary Secretary ... Mr. A. P. D. Lodge.

Committee Members ... Messrs. H. R. C. Parker, T. L. Jackson and T. W. U. Park.

Mr. Gillespie went on home leave in April, and Mr. T. L. Jackson resigned the same month, and in their places Messrs. J. R. N. Pryde and A. W. Leslie agreed to act until the Annual Meeting.

Meetings.—One Annual General Meeting and three Extraordinary General Meetings were held during the year, average attendance being 10, the same as for the previous year.

The Association was represented by Mr. W. Gillespie at the Annual General Meeting of the UPASI at Bangalore, and by Mr. E. T. C. Farr at the Sri Mulum Popular Assembly. The usual budget meeting was not held until after the close of the year, the delay being due to the S. I. A.'s request to scrutinize the budget before the meeting was held.

Crop returns.—The usual quarterly tea crop figures were collected by the Honorary Secretary as usual.

UPASI Subscription.—These were also collected throughout the Association with the exception of Rani-Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd., who paid direct to Madras.

Accounts 1930-31, were again audited by Mr. P. Parasurama Iyer, and copies of the Balance Sheet circulated.

Messrs. Harrisons & Crossfield Ltd. continued to act as our Bankers.

Rubber Advisory Committee.—Mr. W. Gillespie continued to act as our representative, and on his departure on home leave in April, Mr. H. R. C. Parker took his place.

Tea Advisory and Labour Control Committees, were abolished.

Travancore Combined P. A.—Mr. E. T. C. Farr continued to act.

U. P. A. S. I. Sports Club.—As this Club has been temporarily suspended, no representative was necessary.

S. I. Planters' Benevolent Fund.—Rs. 615 was collected against Rs. 495 in the previous year.

General.—Our thanks are due to the Committees of the Quilon and Kalthurity V. Clubs for permitting us to hold our meetings in their Clubs.

The Chairman, Members of Committee and Honorary Secretary now tender their resignations.'

Mr. Farr proposed a vote of thanks to the out-going committee, and that the report be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Polgreen. *Carried unanimously.*

10. *Election of Office-bearers.*—Mr. Parker was requested to remain in the chair during the voting. The result was as follows:—

<i>Chairman</i>	... Mr. H. R. C. Parker.
<i>Honorary Secretary</i>	... Mr. A. P. D. Lodge.
<i>Committee</i>	... Messrs. J. R. N. Pryde, E. T. C. Farr and L. C. Cockaday.

Travancore Combined P. A. & Sri Mulam Popular Assembly District Representative.—Mr. E. T. C. Farr.

Rubber Advisory Committee District Representative.—Mr. H. R. C. Parker.

11. *Election of Auditor.*—Mr. P. Parasurama Iyer was re-elected Auditor for the current year, with a remuneration of Rs. 30 per month.

12. *Election of new member.*—Mr. M. W. Mackay of Arundel Estate was elected a member of the Association.

14. *Articles of Association.*—The Honorary Secretary explained that the question of whether Superintendents of subscribing estates could vote, had been duly considered by the Committee. It was agreed that this was not allowed according to the Articles unless they received a proxy from their Proprietors or Agents in the form laid down.

15. *Sports Club.*—The Honourary Secretary explained that the Committee had previously suggested that the Club be continued with a view to encouraging and assisting inter-district and representative team games, such as rugger, etc. Other P.A.'s had been circularised for their views, and the concensus of opinion was that the matter should be brought up for discussion at the next Bangalore meeting. In view, however, of the present depression the Committee now considered that the matter be dropped until the situation improved. To this the meeting agreed.

16. The Chairman proposed that the Committee be empowered to consider and forward any resolutions to be brought forward at the Bangalore UPASI General Meeting that it considered necessary. He explained that the next meeting of the Association would only be held a few days before the UPASI meeting, to give definite instruction to our delegate, and any resolutions put forward could then be confirmed if agreed to. This resolution was carried.

H. R. CARSON PARKER,
Chairman.

A. P. D. LODGE,
Hon. Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE

Spraying or Dusting?

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

The value of spraying for coffee pests is now well recognized ; but there is another way of checking fungus diseases—that is to say by dusting.

Dusting is less laborious than spraying, for wet sprays are not only heavy to carry, but also to force as mists on to the trees or bushes.

The powders used in dusting are light and the machines easier to manipulate ; besides, it is done at six times the speed of spraying.

Powders containing sulphur are placed in the machines which, in working, scatter these powders in clouds of very fine particles in the air ;

but they drift with the winds across the plantations, and finally settle upon the leaves and branches of the trees. Hence, these powders should be liberated upon the windward side, and they work best when the air currents are low, steady and weak.

The powders from the dust clouds are caught more readily by the trees, leaves, twigs and branches if the latter are slightly damp, say with mist or dew, or after a fine drizzle of rain.

I enclose an illustration * of a dusting apparatus, a French machine, but procurable in England: it is worn on the back, knapsack fashion, and costs £2-10-0.

Naturally, so simple a process has its limitations, for only those chemicals can be used that are obtainable in powder form, such as sulphur and also some nicotine salts.

It is said, however, both that that dusting machines are being improved, and also that better powders have come into the market—a proof that dusting is commanding itself to many by reason of its economy and efficiency.

44, PRIMROSE HILL ROAD,
N. W. 3, LONDON, .
May 28, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
W. A. LEE.

[* *Editor's Note.*—We regret we have found it impracticable to reproduce the illustration referred to in the above letter, but if readers are interested, it can be forwarded to them on application to the Editor. As Col. Lee states, it is a light apparatus carried on the back, knapsack fashion with a hose connection about a yard long and appears to be handy and easily manipulated.]

New Method of Rubber Tapping *The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'*

DEAR SIR,

I have read with interest the article which appeared in your *Chronicle* regarding the above. There appears to be several criticisms on which further information would be of interest. Firstly, it is mentioned that this method gives an increase in crop amounting in some instances to over 10 per cent, but no mention is made of what method of tapping it is being compared with. Until this is stated, the 10 per cent increase means nothing.

Secondly, an increase in the percentage of scrap to first-grade rubber would be expected.

Thirdly, the possibility that the tree would tend to become corrugated after tapping after the first renewal.

Fourthly, that leaving untapped panels running at an angle of approximately 5 degrees up the tree from left to right according to the structure of the latex cells, would very probably assist the upward flow of latex.

It might be possible for our Rubber Scientific Officer to arrange for experiments to be made of the method, and of one or two variations. It would appear likely that bark renewal would be better than by the usual methods in vogue in this country, but the possibility of Brown Bast infection of the untapped panels may prove to be a big drawback.

Yours, etc.,
INTERESTED.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized			Average prices obtained for tea				
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending May 21, 1931	January 1 to May 21, 1931	January 1 to May 21, 1930	
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, May 21, 1931).			N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
(a) Anamalais—		s. d.	S. India.	0 10·27	0 11·70	1 2·65	
*Peria Karamalai	195	1 8	Ceylon.	a 1 1·86	b 1 1·57	c 1 3·50	
Sirkundra	91	1 5½	Java	1 3·96	1 4·67	1 7·37	
*Staamore	189	1 3½	Sumatra.	0 7·08	0 8·03	0 10·05	
Thay Mudi	93	1 3½	Nyassa- l a n d .	0 7·72	0 8·78	0 11·31	
Nalla Mudi	65	1 2½	Total...	0 6·83	0 7·75	0 9·25	
Thoni Mudi	155	1 2½	d 1 0·00	e 1 0·66	f 1 3·38		
Mukottu Mudi	225	1 2½					
(b) Central Travancore—							
Bon Ami	120	1 7½	N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—				
Stagbrook	97	1 5½	a 5,428	b 110,411	c 127,320		
Glenmary	80	1 5½	d 88,725	e 1,711,466	f 1,661,281		
Carady Goody	100	1 4					
Ladrum	163	1 3½					
Pambanaar	80	1 2					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Talliar	152	1 6½	(B) RUBBER — The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Tuesday, June 16, 1931, was 3½ d.				
(d) Nilgiris—			London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, June 13, 1931, were 83,856 tons, a decrease of 1,059 tons on June 6, 1931 inventory.				
Prospect	115	2 1	Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, June 13, 1931, were 54,812 tons, an increase of 554 tons on June 6, 1931 inventory.				
Brooklands	85	1 10½					
Nonsuch	106	1 9½					
Ibex Lodge	106	1 5½					
Woodlands	245	1 5½					
*Katar	123	1 3½					
Craigmore	256	1 3½					
Sutton	110	1 2					
(C) COFFEE—							
Seven days ending May 20 and 27, 1931 respectively							
District	Bags	s. d.	Grades	District	Bags	s. d.	Grades
Anamallais—				Mysore—(contd.)			
Valparai	116	86 6	1, 2, 3&T (20)	H. C. S. ...	67	117 2	1, PB & T (20)
Coorg—				Honnametti ..	51	115 0	Extra, 1, and 3 (20)
Havinakadu	91	81 7	1, 2 & PB (20)	Olivers K. ...	28	113 3	1, 2 & PB (20)
Kanan Devans—				55	113 0	1, 3 & PB (20)
Elephant Devacolum.	62	95 0	1, 2, 3&T (20)	Chininhulli ..	94	110 0	1 (27)
Mysore—				Attikan ...	83	108 11	Extra, 1, 2 & 3 (27)
Chininhulli L.	39	123 6	1 (20)	H. C. K. ...	57	103 7	1 & T (20)
Attikan	46	121 2	Extra and 1 (20)				

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, June 18, 1931

There was nothing fresh to report in the Planting Section and the market remained uninteresting with prices going down without attracting buyers. *Raw Rubber* is no better than 3d. and *Tea shares* are much the same as in our last report.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	... £ 1	0	2	0	- 3d.
2. Linggi Plantations	... £ 1	0	6	3	- 4s. 3d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	... £ 1	0	7	0	-
4. Merlimau Rubber	... 2s.	0	1	3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	... £ 1	1	5	6	-
6. Poomudi Tea and Rubber	... 2s.	0	0	6	- 1½d.
7. Pullangode Rubber	... £ 1	0	2	6	- 2s. 6d.
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	... £ 1	0	2	3	- 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	... £ 1	0	12	9	+ 3d.
10. Travancore Rubber	... £ 1	0	7	6	-

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	3
Cochins Rs. 15	...	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	22½	25
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	6
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	3
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	14½	15½
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	...	29
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	19
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1
Periyars Rs. 10	1½	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	...	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	75	77½
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered at the Auction of June 9, 1831, amounted to 2,452,515 lbs. Quality was satisfactory and compared quite favourably with the previous week's offerings. There was a fair demand, but the market was very irregular and generally easier. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATORATA.**—Quality of occasional teas was rather brighter, and these sorts were in good demand, but where quality was plain there was difficulty in obtaining bids. **HIGH GROWN.**—Quality was about equal to last, demand was irregular. Pekoes were generally lower, but otherwise little change in rates can be recorded where sales were effected. There was again a fair quantity of tea withdrawn without bids. **MEDIUM GROWN.**—Quantity was useful. There was rather more enquiry and prices tended higher for all grades except Pekoes which were rather easier. **LOW GROWN.**—There was a good demand at ½ cents decline on last rates. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.**—Good descriptions were fully firm; otherwise this market was rather quieter.

South Indian Teas in Auctions of May 26 and June 2 respectively obtained the following prices :—

Estates					Total lbs.	Average
Madupatty	...	...	...	...	15,462	75 (26)
Welbeck	...	...	...	...	2,721	59 (2)
Chinnar	...	...	...	...	2,995	42 (26)
Do.	...	...	...	...	3,498	36 (26)
Do.	...	...	...	...	3,110	36 (26)
Kokayar	...	...	...	...	2,225	33 (26)

RUBBER.—About 191 tons were offered at the Auction held on June 4, 1931. A better market ruled and all grades were well supported at an advance in prices. There was a limited quantity of Standard Grades in the Auction. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet was in good demand at 14 cents showing an advance of one cent on previous rates. All other grades of Sheet met with good competition and showed a similar advance. Contract Crepe was a good market at 13½ cents showing an improvement of one cent on last week's prices. Off Crepe also showed an improvement of one cent while Mottled sorts were wanted at a cent and a quarter advance. A strong market ruled for Scrap Crepes and best sorts were about one and a quarter cents dearer than previously and inferior sorts were about one cent dearer than at last week's Auction. A very small quantity of Scrap was available and No. 1 sorts were about ½ of a cent up on last rates.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

May 13, 1931 to June 13, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total.
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ...	0·46	0·17	0·63
2. Kalthuritty.	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri ...	1·86	2 14	4·00
3. Kallar Bdge.	9·96	10·50	20·46	26. Ootacamund	2·88	0·78	3·66
4. Koney ...	8·76	...	...	27. Yercaud ...	2·00	0·36	2·36
5. Pattanapura.	...	...	11·26	28. Mango Range	2·95	3·59	6·54
6. Kumbazha...	6·55	7·66	14·21	29. Devala ...	4·13	2·32	6·45
6a Peravanthan.	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	1·72	0·78	2·50
6b Aneikolam...	4·66	5·97	10·63	31. CALICUT ...	5·15	2·32	7·47
7. Peermade ...	9·03	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi ...	3·48	...	...
8. Twyford ...	6·92	10·75	17·67	33. Vayitri ...	3·91	3·09	7·00
9 V'periyar ...	9·60	6·87	16·47	34. Manantoddi	1·40	0·41	1·81
10. Kalaar ...	2·67	...	...	35. Billigiris ...	1·38	...	1·38
11. Chittuvurrai	0·11	0·06	0·17	36. Sidapur ...	...	1·94	...
12. Bodr'KANUR	...	...	...	37. Ghatted Hulla	...	...	...
13. COCHIN	6·81	6·34	13·15	38. Pollibetta ...	3·41	...	...
14. Mooply ...	4·34	3·18	7·52	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	2·50	2·89	5·39	40. Saklaspur ...	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	4·67	6·18	10·85	41. Kadamanie ...	2·67	...	...
17. POLLACHIE	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur...	2·96	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	0·93	0·78	1·71	43. Merthisubgey.	0·29	...	...
19. Karapara ...	2·39	...	...	44. Kelagur ...	3·29	3·77	7·06
20. Pullengode..	...	...	10·91	45. Durgadbettta.	9·34	...	...
21. Nilambur ...	4·43	...	...	46. MANGALORE	6·11	3·96	10·07
22. Naduvattam	1·92	2·01	3·93	47. MADRAS ...	0·12	...	0·12
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	...	...	

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 14]

July 4, 1931

[Price As, 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE second (1931) edition of this illustrated Volume will serve not only as a manual for the working planter but may be read by him with quite considerable interest. The subject has been handled so well that, in addition to the considerable improvements which have been embodied in the current edition in the light of modern scientific discoveries, the modern Planter is enabled to keep abreast with the revolutionary changes in the methods of economical tea manufacture which are fully dealt with in this work.

The book is furnished with a good index and is one which will meet the needs of the practical planter (both in India and Ceylon) for technical information regarding the multifarious details of the working of Tea estates, for it is now generally recognized that each country has much to gain by a comparative study of each other's methods: the general reader also will be well repaid for the comparatively small outlay necessary to secure expert knowledge of one of the most interesting agricultural industries in the world.

THIS is a most interesting little book produced under the *nom de plume* of 'The Old Campaigner' whose identity we do not think our readers will find it difficult to guess. As the title *History of the High Range* signifies, it is a complete record from the pioneer in the early 'Eighties' to the present time containing many interesting experiences of the Author and giving an excellent insight into the difficulties which these pioneers had to overcome. The life of the early

Planters was not all unpleasant however and there were compensations, which make interesting reading. The Author is to be congratulated on a painstaking piece of work which is carefully set out and printed and bound in a convenient form. The fact that it is the first production of its kind more than justifies its publication and all Planters would do well to have a copy of this interesting story of the High Range in their possession. Copies can be obtained from the Manager, M.S.A., Munnar P.O., or from the U.P.A.S.I. Office, Madras. Price Rs. 2-8-0 per copy, Post free.

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NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

TEA CONSUMPTION IN INDIA

Discussing the outlook for the tea industry, Messrs. Place, Siddons, and Gough, in their weekly report from Calcutta, consider that there is little to be said that can be described as definitely more favourable. It is true that the outturn to date from Northern India, owing to hail damage as well as lack of rain in other districts, is well below the corresponding figure for last year. It is as yet, however, only the beginning of the season and the big producing months, which really count, have still to come. A more favourable factor, it is stated, appears to lie in the decision on the part of the Tea Cess Committee definitely to tackle the problem of increasing the consumption of tea in India by the establishment of their own—at any rate, in the first instance—packing factory. India, it is confidently predicted, will be able to consume all the tea that she can produce, and the opinion has been held for a long time past that the Committee's primary activities should be concentrated on bringing about a further increase in the present rate of consumption in India, which already exceeds 50 million lb. annually, rather than expend their energies and enormous sums of money in America, which has been a coffee-drinking country since time immemorial and where a cup of coffee can be still obtained cheaper than a cup of tea. In justification to the Tea Cess Committee, it should be added here that during last year's world-wide depression, shipments of tea into America from Northern India increased by as much as 1½ million lb.

OLYMPIA INDUSTRIES FAIR

The Empire Marketing Board, the biggest individual exhibitor at the recent British Industries Fair at Olympia, is so pleased with the results achieved at the show, that it has already decided to participate in the 1932 Fair. The E.M.B. is concerned mainly with the marketing of food products from the British Empire. Orders obtained as a result of the Fair displays, were so good that the Board has become one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the Fair.

The West Indies, which had a display in this section, sold 3,000 samples of Trinidad chocolate each day. East Africa sold more than 600 samples of coffee per day. India obtained big orders for rice, lentils, tea and coffee. It was all very cheering in view of the recent world-industrial slump and the low levels registered by commodities. It is considered a good augury for the future.

IMPROVED TEA FIGURES

The figures of the movements of tea in London during April show a further improvement in the statistical position. Imports of tea at 21,381,787 lb., are down by nearly 6 million pounds on the previous month's figures and nearly one million pounds less than in the same month last year. Deliveries at 51,600,971 lb., are again heavy, and, although about four million pounds below the March total, exceed the figures of April, 1930, by some 14½ million pounds. For the four months of this year imports at 134,406,212 lb., compare with 131,390,682 lb., in the corresponding months last year, while deliveries at 184,045,073 lb., compares with 157,064,117 lb. This means that some 27 million pounds more has gone into consumption. Stocks of tea show a marked reduction. The stock figure at the end of April is given at 211,961,787 lb., a reduction of 30 million pounds on the March figure, and over 22½ million pounds less than at the end of April last year.

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OBSERVATIONS ON SPRAYING EXPERIMENTS

In May 1930, a comprehensive series of experiments was laid out at the Experiment Station to investigate the relative effects of different spray mixtures. As with all experiments involving comparisons between treatments, the differences are likely to be of a smaller order than when the problem is one of the presence or absence of a particular treatment. This fact makes the attainment of definite results from figures of crop-yield a matter of some years. It was decided to investigate the possibilities of some direct method of observation which would give results more rapidly. The problem, in its simplest terms, was whether it was possible to refine observations on the amount of disease and leaf-fall to such an extent that data which could be treated statistically, could be obtained. Furthermore, the observations must be sufficiently few to allow of their being carried out in a short time and sufficiently independent of the observer to avoid errors of estimation when several people are carrying out the observations in the field.

The first task, when the work was taken up in September 1930, was to find some type of branch or branch system which could be treated as a unit and which could be found regularly on any tree in the area. It was found that crop-bearing branches of 14 to 18 joints with their associated side shoots afforded a convenient unit which could be readily found on any well-developed tree. The observations were therefore started on this basis, and for each branch system examined, records were kept of the number of shoots, number of adult leaves and number of diseased leaves. Twenty such branch systems were examined in each plot.

The lay-out of the experiment consisted of a series of strips of coffee, 4 trees wide by 20 trees long. Each strip, except those left as controls received one or other of the treatments and each treatment was repeated three times in various parts of the area. The treatments were as follows:—Casein Bordeaux, Resin Soda Bordeaux, Linseed Oil Bordeaux in 10 ozs. 20 ozs and 40 ozs. strength in 50 gallons. Resin Soda Burgundy, Fish Oil Resin Soap Burgundy, Alum Bordeaux, 3 per cent. Solbar, 1·5 per cent. Solbar, and Control plots with no spray were left between groups of 3 strips. Observations were made on all these plots except 1·5 per cent. Solbar and all but three of the Controls. In all, therefore, 30 plots were examined, 20 branch systems in each plot or 60 to each treatment.

From the data collected, a figure representing the number of leaves per growing shoot was obtained for each branch system. The comparative homogeneity of these branch systems is shown by the fact that each 20 selected was found to bear about the same number of growing shoots.

From the figures obtained for the number of leaves per shoot per branch system, the mean for each treatment was obtained in the usual way and then the Standard Deviation and Standard Error were calculated. Differences greater than twice the Standard Error are usually regarded as 'significant', i.e., too great to be due to pure chance. In this particular case, however, it must be borne in mind that differences may be due to causes which are not common to all the plots in spite of the replication of treatments. Two such sources of error are peculiar to this particular type of experiment, i.e., in addition to the sources of error such as soil heterogeneity, shade variation which are common to all field experiments on coffee. These are : (1) Varying efficiency of the coolies carrying out the spraying, (2) The chances of rain falling when one or more treatments are still wet, while others have had time to dry. Hence, differences even if greater than twice the Standard Error must be regarded with caution when obtained from only one year's observations. However the results as they stand are of considerable interest and can be used as a basis for more extensive trial of one or two of the mixtures.

The results are given in the accompanying table in descending order:—

10 ozs. Linseed Bordeaux	...	...	...	$6.35 \pm .21$
40 ozs. " "	...	...	...	$6.28 \pm .25$
20 ozs. " "	...	...	...	$6.09 \pm .19$
Casein Bordeaux	...	...	...	$5.90 \pm .18$
Fish Oil Resin Soap Burgundy	...	...	...	$5.57 \pm .23$
Resin Soda Bordeaux	...	...	...	$5.50 \pm .16$
Alum Bordeaux	...	...	...	$5.38 \pm .24$
Resin Soda Burgundy	...	...	...	$4.87 \pm .18$
3 per cent. Solbar	...	...	...	$3.10 \pm .11$
Check, no spray	...	...	...	$2.40 \pm .13$

In addition to these data, similar observations were carried out on two parallel areas of coffee at Guntanaik Estate, by courtesy of Mr. G. V. R. Frend. One of these areas was sprayed with a full strength Casein Bordeaux and the other with half strength of the same mixture. These gave the following results:—

Full Strength Casein Bordeaux	...	...	$5.81 \pm .14$
Half " " "	...	...	$5.42 \pm .20$

The close agreement between the full strength Casein Bordeaux at Guntanaik and the same mixture at the Station is very striking.

As was only to be expected, the differences between the various sprays are not very great and significant differences from full strength Casein Bordeaux (Experiment Station data), which was taken as the standard only occur in three cases. Some of the others approach a significant difference as far as the actual data for error go, but the indications must be treated with reserve.

It hardly needed the evidence of these figures to demonstrate the value of spraying with a copper containing spray as this has been well established in other experiments. The figures here indicate, however, what a considerable difference a spray does make to the amount of leaf carried. The checks show less than half the amount of leaf found on the worst of the sprayed areas, excepting 3 per cent. Solbar.

3 per cent. Solbar was not a success, the treatment resulting in only a very slight improvement over the checks. Little need be said about this material. It is a German proprietary spray containing Sulphur which in the strength recommended, caused a certain amount of burning to the young leaves in May 1930.

The third plot showing a definite difference was Resin Soda Burgundy. This result was rather surprising but the difference is in my opinion definite. It is supported by reports from the Shevaroys where this mixture has been tried which stated that it was unsatisfactory.

The remaining treatments are all very close together and the differences cannot be regarded as significant. Those for Linseed Bordeaux are however worthy of some consideration, for the slight superiority is maintained throughout the three treatments involving this adhesive. In addition to the promising nature of these data, there is the fact that the preparation of this adhesive is very simple as it is only necessary to add the oil to the mixture and stir thoroughly. On this account Linseed oil in the lowest strength 10 ozs.—can be recommended for trial. There is no apparent increase in efficiency with the higher amounts.

Lastly, the results from the observations at Guntanaik reveal no significant difference between half strength and full strength spraying. This result is supported by other evidence though this latter is only of a qualitative nature and cannot yet be given mathematical expression. The evidence therefore warrants a much more extended use of the half strength spray.

This work is to be continued with further observations along the same lines and it is hoped that the second data will give more definite information on the points still in doubt, from the figures already obtained.

NETRACONDA

DURGADBETTA P. O.

16th June 1931.

W. WILSON MAYNE,

Coffee Scientific Officer.

TEA—FACING HARD FACTS

Rarely have so many decisive events in the tea trade been crowded into a shorter period than that of February to April this year. Within those thirteen weeks, organized restriction has been abandoned, hopes of a differential duty on foreign tea have been falsified, and market prices have declined considerably for all but the finest teas. All these are negative factors and their cumulative effect has been to bring the tea Industry, as distinct from the tea Trade, within hailing distance of a crisis.

To take these three main features in order, the immediate cause of the breakdown of the restriction negotiations, which was known at the beginning of March, was the failure of British and Dutch producers to see eye to eye. Certain definite statistical information which was available by the appointed day as regards Northern India and Ceylon, was declared to be impossible of ascertainment by the Dutch producers; due entirely to 'uncontrollable' native activities. Finally, the Dutch growers insisted on making the withdrawal of the proposed request to the Chancellor for a differential duty a condition of their adherence.

Paradoxically, the market assumed a stronger tone immediately the breakdown of restriction negotiations was known. The reasons for the immediate check to the shrinkage of prices in the preceding weeks are

obscure, but may be traced chiefly to the removal of the uncertainty which had previously oppressed the market and prevented producers from making definite plans for the immediate future, and to the opinion, held in some quarters at least, that non-restriction, by compelling every unit in the industry to work out its own salvation in the light of hard facts, might in the end prove to be the speediest and most effective of all possible forms of restriction.

The immediate effect of this development will undoubtedly be an enhanced tendency towards more careful or selective plucking, the abandonment of uneconomic areas, the temporary suspension of production on other areas, and the conservation of working capital (and/or reduction of costs) by way of drastic curtailment of expenditure under all headings except that of labour. Presumably, programmes of further extensions of planted areas will be either modified or cancelled, and manuring will be cut down or cut out. Such a policy may be unwelcome to some producers, but it should certainly tend towards the production of tea of reduced quantity in British areas. If a similar policy is followed by non-British growers (where there is room for much improved quality also), the first essential steps will have been taken to ensure a slow but steady recovery in the position of the whole industry.

The non-inclusion of a differential duty on tea in Mr. Snowden's Budget for 1931-2, if disappointing, was far from unexpected. Apart from the Chancellor's decision to seek increased revenue, in a period of trade depression, from 'windfalls' rather than increased taxation, it is common knowledge that Mr. Snowden is temperamentally averse both to 'breakfast table' duties, and any policy savouring, however faintly, of 'protection.' Some British producers would doubtless have willingly agreed to a tax on their own imports if it had been accompanied by differentiation against foreign tea, which would have excluded some of the ultra-low *mass-production* quality of much of the foreign article. These producers claim that, even in the questionable event of the passing on to the consumer a part of the duty, the latter would have suffered no real hardship. So numerous are the cups of tea capable of being brewed from a pound of the commodity, that the cost of a small duty, per cup, is infinitesimal. Indeed, it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that at the present time, tea as an article of consumption is not much dearer than water. Facts, however, are stubborn if unwelcome, and the industry has no option but to accept their implications. It is doubtful whether even a future Conservative Government would quickly reimpose a duty whose remission was one of the final acts of the last Conservative Chancellor.

Both as regards restriction and taxation, the industry now has at least the advantage of knowing precisely where it stands. It can, therefore, concentrate the more effectively on the best means of surmounting an undoubtedly difficult situation. The position can be indicated by a few significant figures. Since the beginning of 1931, *all* tea has suffered a severe decline in value, but while really good tea has shown latent powers of recovery from its lowest level, ordinary plain varieties, and everything below them have declined progressively. Clean, common India leaf, which opened the year at 9½d. per lb. has fallen to 6d. Below this standard type, a large quantity of leaf is selling down to 4½d. The average quotations for Java teas have fallen by 4d. a lb., so that considerable quantities of leaf are being sold below 3½d., with certain grades fetching as little as 2½d. In the case of medium and plain medium teas, the fall, though less disastrous, has been considerable. Within four months the average for teas from Northern

India declined, in all, from 1s. 2½d. to 10½d.; from Southern India from 1s. 2½d. to 10d.; and from Ceylon from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 2½d. Considerations of high seasonal quality have produced a moderate recovery in some cases, but the outlook is sufficiently serious to call for a crucial review of its implications by growers in *all* areas.

During February, when the slump in prices was at its worst, many observers could not avoid the conviction that the policy of at least a part of the industry was scarcely adjusted to the economic situation then prevailing. It was, perhaps, doubtful whether actual consumption in the United Kingdom was increasing. One large distributing concern had actually reported a decline in its recent sales of between 250,000 and 500,000 lbs., and the severity of trade depression rendered a similar shrinkage in all parts of the country more than possible. The break in market prices, at the same time, was clearly a cause of anxiety to the buying side of the trade, which, in its own interests, was most unwilling to contemplate a further precipitous fall. A significant amount of tea from all areas was obviously fetching less than its production costs, yet the most favourably disposed market observers could discover no evidence of a widespread effort to adjust marketing policy to the prevailing conditions. Instead, one encountered an abundance of weekly supply and constant pressure to sell. Incidentally, the quarter's events must have brought home to Dutch producers the extreme potential disadvantage of their position whenever, in the absence of agreement, British interests offered their product in such large quantities, and under such free-selling conditions as recently prevailed.

The 'quantity' factor is to-day the crux of the whole situation. The standard of quality of last year's Northern India crop has given cause for serious reflection, possibly in the direction of the bush rather than of the factory, and more particular as regards Assam teas. Under restriction a fine crop was assumed as a matter of course, but actually the reverse obtained. Visibly better green leaf was, in fact, plucked almost everywhere in the Assam district: why was the effect not evident in the manufactured article? Can it be that if fine-plucked green leaf did not produce fine tea, the explanation was that the leaf itself did not possess the attributes which are the chief objective in a considered policy of careful plucking? Has the importance of slow growth in producing fine quality been lately under-emphasized? In recent years of relatively high prices, have bushes been over-stimulated? It would certainly appear that the events of the past season, if carefully studied, might yield conclusions of the utmost value to the industry as regards the comparative virtues of unassisted slow growth and mature leaf as against forced or stimulated rapid growth and, possibly, immature leaf.

As we show on a later page, the market position has improved appreciably in the last few weeks, particularly for the best qualities from all areas, which in some cases have recovered most of the ground lost during the depressed period of February. In view of the statistical position, and the negative nature of all important news concerning the industry, this recovery is more than gratifying, though it has left the lowest price teas entirely outside its scope. Nevertheless, the past quarter has clearly revealed the dangers of an unbalanced position. It is on its own efforts that the industry must chiefly rely for the restoration of equilibrium. An ultimate revival of consumption may ultimately be of assistance, but the outcome of the strenuous efforts made since the new year to develop trade with Russia affords an example of the difficulties in the way of speedy

development along these lines. For many weeks, thousands of samples of Northern India and Southern India teas were posted to Moscow by brokers through the Centrosojus agency, in the hope that a gradually increasing business might result from the experiment. The response was inadequate and disappointing. It would appear that information was not given as to the particular types of tea required in Russia and thousands of samples were evidently dispatched which did not interest but merely confused Moscow. If careful reports and advices had been freely sent from the latter city, the experiment might have attained greater success. The efforts have now been discontinued on the request of the Russian representatives, who stated that it would be preferable to revert to their former practice of selection in London.

While the failure of this effort should not discourage the industry from exploiting every possible opportunity for increasing its markets, a really significant increase of consumption must wait upon a revival of general prosperity. In the meantime, the well-being of the industry is now more closely dependent on the policy of producers than for many months past. The remaining months of 1931 will show how far the events of the period of depression have served to indicate the foundations upon which the industry may build against the return of better times.—*The Rubber and Tea Quarterly*.

NEW TEA-DISTRIBUTING CENTRE

The great new tea-warehouses in Leman Street, Whitechapel, where the Co-operative Wholesale Society will be able to handle 1,700,000 pounds of tea weekly, has been formally opened. At the luncheon following the celebration of the event, George Hayhurst, President of the Society's committee of management, presided. The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, his daughter Ishbel, and other prominent citizens were present.

The Society is at present distributing more than 1,250,000 pounds of tea a week and expects to reach the capacity figures of 1,700,000 before very long. The Leman street tea-depot is now the world's largest, the original warehouse having been opened in March, 1897, with an 8 o'clock breakfast for the delegates. The event was celebrated soon afterwards by the entertainment at the Crystal Palace of more than 1,000 employees from the London Branch and Tea Department by the C. W. S. directors.

It is at the Leman street depot that the thousands of chests of teas are stacked, awaiting their turn for handling. The leaf from the chests is cut and blended during passage through the mills which handle 20 chests each per hour. The hoppers automatically receive the blended tea, each handling more than 30,000 pounds of the leaf each day. The blends are filtered in the hoppers which retain any foreign deposits in the tea such as nails, wood or tin foil emanating from the chests. Huge revolving drums, holding 4,000 pounds of leaf each, and filled and emptied seven or eight times a day, complete the blending process. During this blending process, expert tea-tasters are supervising at every stage of the work. The leaf is made up of those descriptions best suited for certain districts in which the qualities of the drinking water vary considerably.

The blended and finished tea descends in shutes to the weighing machines which tip the correct quantities into quarter and half-pound packets that are produced on other machines from rolls of white paper and

tinfoil. Metal fingers do all the folding and sealing, the open packets travelling on an endless band beneath the weighing machines. The picking up and gumming of the labels on the filled and sealed packets is done by machinery. Around 25,000 packets a day can be turned out with the supervision of just one girl!

At the luncheon celebrating the opening of the new premises, the Chairman said the Society now had 5,000 acres of tea gardens in Ceylon and 28,000 acres in India, and that it now held premier position as an organization of growers, importers, blenders, packers and distributors of tea.

Figures showing the great advance that has been made in the consumption of tea, were produced. Last year the Society sold more than 90,000,000 pounds of tea, compared with 27,000,000 pounds in 1913. Every man, woman and child in the kingdom now drinks six cups a day.

The King was toasted in tea made from leaf grown in the Society's own gardens.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION

TENKASI AGENCY

Mr. M. S. A. Mahammed Mohideen Taraganar, son of M. S. Alla Pitchai Taraganar of Tenkasi, has been appointed from June 16, 1931, as Agent, Labour Department, Upasi, Tenkasi, *vice* Mr. K. Ananthakrishna Pillai, deceased. His address is Therku Melakoilkal Street, Tenkasi, Tenkasi Taluk, Tinnevelly District.

PALAMCOTTAH,
June 17, 1931.

A. G. A. DUNNING,
Superintendent.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Law (General) Department

— — — — — PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ

Dated Fort St. George, the 26th June, 1931

In modification of the press communiqué issued on the 28th March, 1931, it is hereby notified for general information that with effect from the 23rd July, 1931, all applications for passports and visas should be addressed to the Secretary to Government, Law Department, Fort St. George, Madras, and that the Collector of Madras will not issue any passports or grant any visas on passports.

U. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

THE WRITER'S ALPHABET

- 'A' is the Answer they always have ready
- 'B' is their Billet, they keep if they are steady
- 'C' is the Company who gives them their 'B'
- 'D' are their Duties laid down by the 'C'
- 'E' is the Experience most necessary for 'D'
- 'F' are their Faults to which they are deaf
- 'G' is their Grouse when alluded to in 'F'
- 'H' is the Headache when work they have missed
- 'I' is the 'Ike' 'H' is responsible for this
- 'J' is the Jacket they wear to a man
- 'K' is, of course, Kottayam the home of the Clan
- 'L' is the Labour whose *Sungudums* they quell
- 'M' is the Muster they attend along with 'L'
- 'N' are the Names they miss now and then . . .
- 'O' is the Office where one pushes the pen
- 'P' is their Pay, they all like to see
- 'Q' are their Questions *re* increase of 'P'
- 'R' is their Religion about which they war
- 'S' is Syrian Christian which most of them 'R'
- 'T' is the 'Tote' Coffee, Rubber or Tea
- 'U' is the Umbrella, fair or foul, they use in the 'T'
- 'V' is the *Valia Sahib* with whom they must agree
- 'W' are their Worries, all settled by the 'V'
- 'X' is the 'Xyleborus' which doth the 'Pest' writer vex
- 'Y' are the Yams they grow safe from the 'X'
- 'Z' is the Zeal with which they eat up their 'Y'.

J. A. D.

DISTRICT NOTES

COORG

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Coorg Planters' Association
 held in the North Coorg Club, Mercara
 on Monday, June 8, 1931, at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), P. G. Tipping, W. A. F. Bracken,
 W. R. Wight, S. P. St. C. Raymond, L. Newcome, J. S. H. Morgan,
 J. H. Sprott, C. L. J. Humphreys, R. P. W. Potter, G. Scotland, W. P. Scott,
 B. S. Bucknall, E. C. H. Morgan, J. O. F. Maurice, Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland,
 Major H. S. Mullins and Mr. A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor:

Mr. C. S. Iron.

The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The minutes of the Quarterly General Meeting held on March 30, 1931, having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, were taken as read, and confirmed.

The minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting held on April 14, 1931, were read and confirmed.

Annual Accounts and Report of the Honorary Secretary—Mr. Raymond proposed and Mr. Tipping seconded:

'That the Annual Accounts be passed and the Honorary Secretary's Report be adopted.'

Carried unanimously.

At this stage Mr. Newcome proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary for all the work he had done during the past year, and the Chairman requested the Honorary Secretary to accept an honorarium in recognition of his services.

The Honorary Secretary thanked the members of the Association for their generosity and for their appreciation of his work.

Election of Office Bearers—The following gentlemen were elected for the ensuing year :—

President Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls.

Honorary Secretary „ A. M. Webb.

North Coorg Committee (Active) ... „ S. P. St. C. Raymond and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.

Do. Member-in-Waiting ... Mr. J. S. H. Morgan.

South Coorg Committee (Active) ... Messrs. P. G. Tipping and W. A. F. Bracken.

Do. Member-in-Waiting ... Mr. N. M. Scholfield.

U. P. A. S. I. Delegates ... „ A. E. J. Nicolls and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.

U. P. A. S. I. General Committee ... Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.

After thanking the members for the honour they had done him in re-electing him as their President, Mr. Nicolls addressed the Meeting and, amongst other things, said :—

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

The past year has been a most trying one for us all, for we have not only picked small crops, but have also met with what I hope will be the lowest prices we shall ever see.

At the same time the Coffee Outlook is by no means as black as it was at one time. Thanks to the energy and public spirit shown by some of our members, we have been able to set in motion a scheme for the better marketing of our coffee. And, closely connected with this is the formation

of a Coffee Growers' Association. Now the importance of such a body cannot be exaggerated, provided we can persuade every European and Indian Planter to join, for it would mean that, in the event of the Coffee Selling Schemes falling through, we should, as a united body of Coffee Growers, be able to dictate, to a certain extent, at any rate, to the sellers of our coffee as to the price we would be prepared to accept.

We have succeeded after 6 years' efforts, in persuading the Government of India to prohibit the import of raw coffee into this country, thus opening a new market for our produce.

In Brazil an export tax of 10s. per bag has been introduced, and it is intended to utilize this fund for compensating the planters for surplus coffee which will be destroyed.

In addition to this we read of an immense campaign by the Coffee Roasters' Association for the advertisement of coffee.

Now I venture to point out that without an Association we could never have achieved the prohibition of import of raw coffee, nor could we have formed this Coffee Selling Scheme. There are many other benefits which we gain from being members of such an Association, which I need not mention now.

I must confess that there is one thing that causes me, and indeed all of us I feel sure, much uneasiness, and that is that we have amongst us some who will not join the Association. They are all good sportsmen and it does not seem to occur to them that their actions and methods are often, though quite unintentionally, I know, actually hostile to the interests of their neighbours, who belong. Further, and I am sure, that such an idea cannot have occurred to them they are enjoying all the benefits of the Association and paying nothing for them. I do hope that every member will do his utmost to persuade those of his neighbours, who do not belong, to join as soon as possible; for I feel that now, when our interests are being threatened more seriously than ever before during British connection with India, it is most essential for us all to be united.

Coffee Growers' Association.—Mr. Newcome, on behalf of the Sub-Committee elected to form a Coffee Growers' Association, then addressed the meeting in Committee concerning the progress of their scheme.

After which, in open meeting, the Chairman requested that the Sub-Committee should write to other Planting Districts explaining why activities were being confined, for the first year, to the Coorg and Mysore districts.

U.P.A.S.I. General Committee Meeting.—Mr. Nicolls explained matters concerning Mr. Waddington's pension and the Coffee Scientific Department. Further he explained that the Coffee Scientific Officer would be visiting Coorg for as long a period and for as many periods as might seem necessary to clear up the two questions of Cockchafer and Mealy Bug as thoroughly as possible. Mr. Mayne expected to start work on July 6, and was going to camp at Hanchi Betta Estate, where, thanks to Mr. Tipping, a bungalow has been put at his disposal.

Other Business.—Read proceedings of Executive Committee Meeting and the Secretary of Upasi's report.

Read letter from Secretary Upasi re amendments to Upasi Labour Department Rules. The Honorary Secretary was requested to circulate copies to all members so that the subject might be discussed fully at the next meeting.

Read letter from Secretary Upasi *re* Stephanoderes.

Read letter from the Secretary, Coorg Retrenchment Committee. Any members having any suggestions to make, were requested to notify the Honorary Secretary in time for discussion at the next meeting.

Read letter from the Commissioner *re* election of members for Advisory Committee for the Coorg and Mysore Military area. Messrs. P. G. Tipping, J. S. H. Morgan and J. O. F. Maurice were elected and kindly agreed to act.

Read notification No. 685-Agr. from the Government of India *re* a further amendment allowing for the inclusion of Cochin as a 'Prescribed Port' under the Destructive Insects and Pests Act.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to request the Secretary of U.P.A.S.I. to approach the Government of Madras with regard to the appointment of an Officer in Coorg for signing certificates of origin as required under the above Act.

Read letter from the South Travancore Planters' Association *re* Upasi Sports Club. It was decided that the subject of this Club be brought up for discussion at the next meeting so that our delegates to Bangalore should be given instructions on this matter.

Attendance at Meetings.—At the suggestion of the Honorary Secretary, it was unanimously decided to request the members of the North Coorg Club, the Bamboo Club and the Belur Club to come to a mutual arrangement with regard to the subscriptions due by members of this Association when attending meetings held in the above-mentioned clubs.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday, July 20, at Pollibetta. It was suggested that the following meeting should with the approval of members, be held at Belur Club.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to Dr. Coleman, C.I.E., and offer him the congratulations of the Association on the honour recently conferred upon him.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary and members of the North Coorg Club for the use of their room.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting ended.

A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

ANAMALLAIS

Minutes of the twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association (Incorporated) held at the Anamallai Club on Wednesday, June 24, 1931, at 2-30 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. E. Johnson (*Chairman*), A. W. F. Mills, F. L. Schwind, J. Hatton Robinson, A. C. Cotton, H. Gerry, R. C. Bulteel, C. W. Mayow, H. de V. Gosselin, O. M. Hetherington, J. H. Ireland Jones, J. L. H. Williams, A. V. Danagher, C. F. Clark, R. Walker, E. A. Stone, P. Achard, N. B. S. Hewett and G. B. Reade (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor :

Mr. E. H. Francis.

The Chairman asked the Honorary Secretary to read the Notice calling the Meeting.

Confirmation of the Minutes.—The following Minutes which had been circulated to all Members, were confirmed *nem. con.* :—

- (a) Extraordinary General Meetings of February 11, 1931, and April 15, 1931.
- (b) Committee Meetings of April 9, 1931, May 7, 1931, and May 19, 1931.

The Honorary Secretary read out the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on June 17, 1931, as they had not been previously circulated—these Minutes were passed by the Meeting *nem. con.*.

New Members.—The following New Members were proposed and duly elected :—

Mr. K. H. Vaughan Arbuckle	{ Proposed by Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones. Seconded by Mr. O. M. Hetherington.
Mr. R. V. Holme	... { Proposed by Mr. F. L. Schwind. Seconded by Mr. A. W. F. Mills.
Mr. F. L. Malleson	... Proposed from the Chair.
Mr. R. W. Bellers	... { Proposed by Mr. R. C. Bulteel. Seconded by Mr. F. L. Schwind.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

' GENTLEMEN,

You did me the honour to elect me to the Chair when Mr. Sampson resigned prior to going Home, and as I was at Home myself for the first half of the year, I find some difficulty in reviewing that period of the Association's activities.

Railways.—A deputation of the Association went to meet members of the Railway Board, and Mr. Brown from the High Range so impressed them with his traffic figures that they put the Pollachi-Vannanthurai line first on the All-India List. This is most satisfactory, but unfortunately Government finance, like everything else, is not flourishing, and it may be some years before funds are available for this development.

A further deputation went to Cochin to interview the Dewan in connection with the alteration of gauges between Ernakulam and the Palghat-Pollachi line ; the result we do not know, but we hope that it will be to make it possible for our shipments to go from railhead to Cochin port without break of bulk.

Roads.—The roads in the District have been well attended to, the Ghaut road is in good condition, and the road in the plains is being really well re-made.

The Association very much regretted that in the present condition of our industries it was not possible to continue our contribution to Government of Rs. 2,500 per year for the Vannanthurai-Pollachi road.

It is not a large amount it is true, but even small amounts are of great importance in these days.

The Association made its decision before the new Toll Abolition Act came into force, and since then it had fewer regrets. The Ropeway Company which last year paid Rs. 130 in tolls, is taxed this year Rs. 12,000 for its fleet of lorries. The Engineer-in-charge got out figures which prove that while lorries ran 61,000 miles on Government roads they ran 62,000 miles on private roads. If you work out the cost of the tax, it comes to 3 annas per every ton-mile run on Government roads.

It is a thousand pities that such cases as these were not brought to light when the Act was under consideration in the Legislative Council. The matter has been represented to Government but there is little hope of redress, as any exception granted would give rise to so many demands that no department could cope with them.

Chatrams.—During the year, the Association has decided to close down the chatrams on the Ghaut, and to abandon the idea of building a chatram at Angalakurichi, motor transport having made both chatrams unnecessary.

Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme.—This matter was rather in abeyance for a time, but recently the situation considerably altered when Major Howard agreed to be supplier and distributor of power, and also reduced his rates so that, although the power may not be a revenue saving at present to fully power-equipped factories, it is a saving to those to be built and to those who have no reserve power. I recently had an opportunity of going over the works at Pykara and I was immensely impressed with the businesslike efficiency and the skill of the layout. It certainly gave me a feeling of confidence in the whole thing and discounted fears of interruption of current.

I am glad to be able to inform you that the Vellamalai Company has opened the ball by accepting current, and the Karamalai Company accept it also for the projected Oosimalai and Akkamalai factories. I want to congratulate these Companies on giving the lead, and hope and trust that before long some of the other big Companies will come in as well.

Electricity in bulk will be an enormous asset in the District, and I invite you to give no peace to your V. A. until we get it.

Major Howard only wants the demand of current which will make 1,250,000 lbs. of tea to start his line. Vellamalai has given $\frac{1}{4}$ of that, and if someone will come forward with a demand for current to make 1,000,000 lbs. of tea now, the line is promised for the end of 1932. It is unfortunate that decisions have to be made in this time of depression.

People talk about the present state of affairs as a tea slump, but that is not a proper description; it is a World Slump. Tea is one of the last things to be hit, and until recently it was flourishing when compared with 90 per cent. of other agricultural industries. Prices of tea two years ago were bad, actually prices last Autumn were better than the year before, but when the Autumnal teas went into market, when restriction was definitely off, it soon became apparent that there was not the same demand and there has been no really keen buying (this year) such as occurred in early 1930. Coffee and Cardamom growers are also suffering from depressed markets.

The Companies interested in the District considered various economies and decided that it was possible to regulate advances.

The fact of the matter is that all production costs will have to go back to a pre-War level. It seems to me that the standard since the war has been a false one, and that now we are really starting to pay for four War years of

ruinous waste. There is no doubt that we have been very free with our money ; we have developed the District very quickly and have got into a habit of easily voting public money for almost any useful object.

The cost of opening estates has gone up from £50 to £150 an acre in 20 years ; there is little doubt that the standard of opening work is better and factories are much better equipped but the increase in cost is startling. We may hope for a tax on Java tea, and it is likely that we will get it, the only stumbling block seems to be that the Conservatives, having taken off the duty, may have doubts about re-imposing it, but they have the loophole that the Chancellor who did it, has left the party.

A.P.A. and U.P.A.S.I.—During the year an important change has occurred in the formation of your Committee.

Mr. Sampson, than whom no one has more knowledge of A. P. A. work, introduced the idea of a Committee representing interests. This seems to be essential ; in the first place no Association wants to come to important decisions without the fullest consultation with representatives of those who find the money, and an interest must have the power to say who will represent it. It would be absurd to have general meetings as frequently as Committee Meetings ; you might as well have no Committee.

In the second place, with the Committee as formed now, you get some continuity and the members get a chance of really understanding their subject. I personally think the weakness of the parent Association is that its Executive changes every year.

U. P. A. S. I.—One hears a good deal about a collapse of U. P. A. S. I. ; speeches are reported in which reference is made to the nails being driven into its coffin.

There is no need whatsoever to take this defeatist attitude. Why should not U. P. A. S. I. study the constitution of planting bodies in other countries and make the alterations necessary to restore confidence ? My views on the subject are that the District and Parent Associations were formed when planting was in the hands of very small Companies and of private proprietors, when acreage were very much smaller than they are now. Now that Companies and individuals have interests in several districts, the method of suffrage by districts is out of date, any large Company might have minority interests in several districts and yet no real say for its money.

I feel sure that what is wanted is an alteration of the laws of voting at U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meetings. At that meeting, representatives of owners should carry the votes, and district representatives should vote by proxy for those not otherwise represented.

Further to this, under the present system, each Executive Committee seem to try harder than the last one to do everything themselves. The best form of organized Government is to run subjects by Sub Committees. This is a method which seems to be unpopular with planting executives, and I fail to see why. As at present constituted, you have the most amazing situations. The Executive Committee controls the Labour Department, but it is possible that no member of the Committee is even a subscriber to the department. The Executive Committee controls the Tea Scientific Station, and it consists of one Tea Planter, one Rubber Planter, and one Coffee Planter. The Tea Member must be a general politician, Labour Member,

have a keen scientific interest, and be a hundred-and-one things if he is going to be efficient.

The fact of the matter is that no Committee could or can combine the qualities required and the permanent officials have to run things in their own way. I think it would be of great benefit to the Tea industry in South India if this Association took up the question of an overdue reorganization.

A. P. A. No. 2 Committee.—Returning to more local affairs, it would be a very great pity indeed if the change in our own constitution lessened the interest of those members who, though keenly interested in planting politics, were debarred from active participation because all decisions were made by the Committee and discussion at General Meetings was useless : with considerable trepidation I make the following suggestion.

I think that a Standing Sub Committee should be formed, elected by show of hands, and it should be entrusted by the General Committee with the conduct of all district matters not affecting finance. When it approaches subjects which do affect finance, it can record its decision for reference to the General Committee. I regret that I do not feel capable of defining more closely the duties of such a Committee but I think that, with good will, its duties will develop as time goes on, and it should be of great use to the district and relieve the General Committee of a good deal of their work, and help to bring out political talent.

I feel convinced that the proper way to work a public body like this, is to appoint Sub Committees to specialize, and this standing one could be of immense use to make a start.

Taluk Board.—When I originally thought of this second Committee, the Taluk Board was not as far in its way to establishment as it is now. As you are aware, Mr. Ireland Jones, when he was Chairman, put in an immense amount of work in making applications, interviewing officials and preparing a Budget. Recently, following the passing of the new Local Boards Act, an opportunity came to reopen the question ; I sent in Mr. Jones' work and now it seems certain that this will bear fruit and we shall be a Taluk Board before the end of the year.

When the Board is formed, the district will be divided into circles, each circle will elect a member, and the Board will probably consist of about fifteen Members. When the time comes to elect the President of the Board, we must remember who did the spade work and got it going.

This Board will conduct most parochial affairs, and be our liaison with Government, and the probability of its formation is to my mind the only argument against the formation of the Standing Sub Committee to which I have referred because the duties of both will be very similar.

Gentlemen, I must thank the Members of the Committee who have been very good and helpful to me ; on coming in new to this office I had to count on their assistance and guidance and they gave it freely.

To Mr. Reade I can only say that no Secretary could have been more patient, loyal, hardworking and efficient. I have never seen a better Secretary, and, on your behalf, I wish Mr. Reade a very pleasant voyage and holiday.

I now place my resignation in your hands.'

Report of the Committee of the Anamallai Planters' Association for season 1930-31.—

Membership.—There are 84 Members of the Association, last year's membership being 77; 5 members left the District during the year, and 12 Members were elected, showing an increase of 7 over the previous year. All subscriptions have been paid.

Estates.—There are 37 Estates subscribing to the Association showing an increase of 1 Estate over the previous year.

Acreages.—

	1929-30	1930-31	Increase	Decrease
Tea	... 21,542.72 acres.	22,953.98 acres.	1,411.26 acres.	...
Coffee	... 2,242.92 „	2,087.88 „	...	155.04 acres.
Cardamoms	2,675.58 „	2,590.58 „	...	85.00 „
Cinchona	... 317.55 „	347.55 „	30.00 „	...
	26,778.77 „	27,979.99 „	1,441.26 „	240.04

Altogether a nett increase of 1,201.22 acres.

For the season 1931-32, 29,286.03 acres are subscribing to the Association.

Crop.—

	1929-30	1930-31	Increase	Decrease
Tea	... 9,978,221 lbs.	10,305,565 lbs.	327,344 lbs.	...
Coffee	... 435½ tons.	450½ tons.	15½ tons.	...
Cardamoms.	155,314 lbs.	149,810 lbs.	...	5,504 lbs.
Cinchona	... 184,381 „	365,961 „	181,580 lbs.	...

Planters' Benevolent Fund shows 100 per cent personal subscriptions paid,

1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	Decrease
Rs. 2,190.9-1	Rs. 1,800-0-0	Rs. 1,510-0-0	Rs. 290-0-0

The reason for the decrease in 1930-31 is that some Estates found it necessary to reduce their subscriptions owing to financial stringency.

Meetings.—The following meetings were held:—One Annual General Meeting, 3 Extraordinary General Meetings, 10 Committee Meetings and 1 Special Labour Committee Meeting. The average attendance at the Extraordinary General Meetings was 33, an increase of 11 over the previous year. In addition to these, there were 2 Township Committee Meetings.

Chatram at Mile 14/6.—Your Committee decided to close this on 1st May this year, as they considered that the need for it was past.

It is hoped that the building will be taken over by the Police as an Outpost, the Association giving it to them at a nominal rent on condition that they keep it in good order.

Angalakurichi Chatram.—This land being of no further use to the Association, your Committee decided to sell same, and the Collector has been approached on the subject.

Pollachi-Vannanthurai Road.—The Annual grant of Rs. 2,500 paid by this Association towards the cost of the upkeep of the Pollachi-Vannanthurai Road was cancelled this year by your Committee on account of financial stringency.

Auditors.—At an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 22nd October, 1930, it was decided to re-appoint Messrs. Fraser & Ross as Auditors for the past season. The auditing of the Association's books has been done, and Members have already received printed copies of the Accounts.

On behalf of the Committee and myself, I now tender our resignations.'

Accounts.—There being no questions asked with regard to accounts, it was proposed from the Chair that they be passed.

Carried nem. con.

Auditors.—Messrs. Fraser & Ross were re-appointed as Auditors for the season 1931-32 at the same remuneration as previously.

Alteration of the Articles of Association of the Anamallai Planters' Association.—It was proposed from the Chair that Articles Nos. 4(a), 9, 10 and 11 be altered to read as follows :—

4(a). The paragraph reading 'The expression "planted acreage" in these presents means all planted areas including buildings, roads and drains, but excluding cart roads' shall be altered to 'The expression "planted acreage" in these presents means all planted areas including buildings and estate paths, but excluding cart roads, swamps and rivers.'

9. The affairs of the Association shall be administered by a Committee of Management, such Committee to be comprised of one Member of each Group of Estates of not less than 1,500 acres of cultivated land under one control, together with the Chairman and Secretary of the Association, as *ex-officio* Members. In the event of the Chairman and/or the Secretary being chosen to represent the Groups of Estates by which they are employed, they shall cease to be *ex-officio*.

10. The Committee shall be nominated at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. Each Group of Estates shall nominate its own representative only. Any casual vacancy shall be filled by the Group of Estates which was previously represented by its retiring Member.

11. The Chairman and Secretary shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, by the votes present or represented at the meeting.

Carried nem. con.

Bleby Memorial Fund.—After some discussion, Mr. F. L. Schwind proposed and Mr. J. Hatton Robinson seconded :—

'That the balance standing to the credit of the Bleby Memorial Fund Account, amounting to Rs. 127-0-10, be handed over to the Mudis Group of Estates for the purpose of erecting a Memorial Tablet in their Church.'

Carried unanimously.

Delegates' Expenses.—It was proposed from the Chair that Delegates' expenses to Coonoor to attend the U.P.A.S.I. meetings held on April 20, 1931, be sanctioned.

Carried nem. con.

CORRESPONDENCE

Cemetery.—The Government terms for the alienation of land for the Valparai Cemetery were read to the Meeting.

The Meeting agreed to the terms with the exception of Clause No. 6 'That a compound wall shall be constructed within one year.' The Honorary Secretary was instructed to take the matter up and get the word 'fence' substituted for 'wall.'

Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.—Read letter No. R. O. C. 487C/31 dated June 16, 1931, from the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras, asking whether the Association had any objection to the removal to Pollachi of the headquarters of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

The Meeting had no objection.

Pollachi-Vannanthurai Road.—Various correspondence in connection with this Road was read to the Meeting, and the Chairman explained what steps he had taken in the matter.

Proposed Game Association.—Read letter dated June 22, 1931, from the Sub Committee elected to go into this subject.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate same to all Members and to put it on the Agenda of the next General Meeting.

Water-rights, Anamallais.—Read letter dated June 20, 1931, from Mr. Hatton Robinson enclosing copy of a letter dated June 16, 1931, which he had received from Mr. Brown.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to take up the matter with the Secretary to Government.

Election of Office-Bearers.—The following were elected Office-Bearers for the coming year :—

Chairman.—Mr. E. Johnson.

Honorary Secretary.—Mr. C. F. Clark.

A. P. A. Committee.—Messrs. A. C. Cotton, J. H. Ireland Jones, J. Hatton Robinson, B. D. Darkin, A. W. F. Mills and R. Bentley.

Delegates to Bangalore.—Messrs. E. Johnson and J. H. Ireland Jones.

Township Committee.—Messrs. A. C. Cotton, J. H. Ireland Jones, J. L. H. Williams, C. F. Clark and G. Stevens (*Honorary Secretary*).

There being no other business, the Meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ERIC JOHNSON,
Chairman.

G. B. READE,
Honorary Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE

Spraying or Dusting

*The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

With reference to Col. W. A. Lee's note on ' Spraying and Dusting' in the *Planters' Chronicle* of June 20, 1931, and your editorial on the same, Col. W. A. Lee might be interested to learn that coffee-dusting experiments have hitherto not proved a success. A small area of coffee on this Estate was dusted last year by the Assistant Mycologist, Coimbatore, and the coffee adjacent to the dusted area was sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture. The dusted coffee later got a bad attack of leaf disease and the sprayed portion was not attacked and bore a good crop. The dust was washed off the trees in the first rains. Dusting, as a protection against fungoid diseases, might give satisfactory results on foliage which is hairy or rough, but the under-surface of the coffee leaf being very smooth offers no foothold for the dust and it is blown or washed off very quickly. I believe dusting experiments carried out by the Department of Agriculture in Mysore sometime back also proved a failure.

HONNAMETTI ESTATE,

ATTIKAN P. O.,

June 24, 1931.

Yours, etc.,

RALPH C. MORRIS.

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

Ref. No. Misc. 164

DEAR SIR,

I read with interest the letter by W. A. Lee on the above subject in your issue of 20th June. It was my intention this year, until financial reasons forbade, to test out the dusting method as a control of Phytophthora leaf fall of rubber and with this in view I made enquiries regarding suitable dusts while I was in England last year. It may be of interest to Mr. Lee to know that fungicidal dusts can now be obtained and have been used with success in other parts of the world. Some of these resemble in nature the usual Bordeaux Mixture, and others make use of the powerful fungicidal properties of Nitrophenol which has been used with complete success in the elimination of mould, etc., on raw rubber.

Dusts are obtainable from the following firms :—

- (1) The Niagara Sprayer and Chemical Co. Inc.,
Middleport,
New York, U. S. A.
- (2) Inter-Continental Commercial Co.,
P. O. Box No. 1084,
Los Angeles,
California, U. S. A.
- (3) The Monsanto Chemical Works,
Saint Louis,
U. S. A.

RUBBER EXPERIMENTAL STATION,

U. P. A. S. I.,

Mundakayam, June 28, 1931.

Yours, etc.,

R. A. TAYLOR.

Honour where Honour is Due
The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

In the editorial in your issue of June 20, writing on Coffee Spraying or Dusting, you say that 'the spraying methods suggested by the State Agricultural Department were only palliatives', also 'as a result of experimental work carried on at the farm, i.e., Mysore Experimental Farm, a large number of planters, both European and Indian, have taken up spraying.'

You do not seem to be aware that spraying coffee was introduced at least six years ago on the Shevaroys by Messrs. Travers Drapes, and it is due to their results that many planters have experimented successfully in the spraying of coffee. Spraying has done so much good that it is only fair to give credit to the two men who, I believe, were the first to bring it into practical use.

With regard to dusting coffee instead of spraying, personally I should always spray if possible, but where there is any scarcity of water, I can quite believe that dusting might be of great use.

COONOR,
June 29, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
 E. G. WINDLE, *Captain.*

[Editor's Note.—In the Editorial of June 20, the statement that the spraying methods suggested by the State Agricultural Department were only 'palliatives', was made at the Mysore Planting Community's Annual Conference, and the Editor is not responsible for this. We regret however that mention was not made of the pioneer work in spraying carried out by Messrs. Travers Drapes on the Shevaroys six years ago—had we been aware of this, it would certainly not have been omitted.]

New Method of Rubber-Tapping

REF. NO. MISC. 163

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

With reference to the letter by 'INTERESTED' on the above, in your issue of June 20th, may I be permitted to draw his attention to the April 1931 number of *Archief Voor de Rubber Cultuur*. This number is completely given over to description of two separate experiments laid out to test the efficacy of the new Bosch Tapping System. As will be seen from the appended English summary of the results, the system is not recommended. The only point in favour of the Bosch knife would appear to be the low rate of bark consumption which is possible, but in considering this factor it must be remembered that the amount of bark removed annually is much greater in Java than in South India. As 'INTERESTED' suggests, the possibility of an increase in Brown Bast cases when very thin shavings are taken, must not be lost sight of. As regards corrugation of the trunk, this also seems probable although no experiment has, to my knowledge, been continued long enough definitely to prove or disprove this.

RUBBER EXPERIMENTAL STATION,
 U.P.A.S.I.,

Mundakayam, June 28, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
 R. A. TAYLOR.

Summary of results of some Experiments with the Bosch Tapping System

' By T. A. TENGWALL

In all the three experiments described there appeared no advantage to the Bosch Tapping system. In the experiments on Sanghyang Damar as well

as on Tjitandoh, the Bosch tap yielded less rubber than tap with one cut over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference; in the experiment on Tjoeroeg, where the Bosch tap yielded more than tap with one cut over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference the surplus yield was insufficient to make up for the higher costs of tapping.

Attention ought to be turned to the fact, that in the experiments on Sanghyang Damar and Tjoeroeg in all objects in which the Bosch knife was used, the bark consumption was the very lowest. It is clear that it is possible to cut very thin with the Bosch knife. In plantations where it is necessary to strictly economize on bark, the Bosch knife may therefore do good service.

It did however not appear, that less wounds were generally made with the Bosch knife than with an ordinary tapping knife, if both were used for tapping the V-cut. Certainly the Bosch knife is not wholly infallible, and without doubt the general impression was not that wounds occurred less frequently on trees that were tapped with this knife.

The setting-out of the tapping panels for Bosch systems is considerably more expensive than setting out the panel which has to be tapped over $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ circumference. According to statements which we received from two of the Estates where the experiments were carried out, these costs were 4 to 5 times as high with the Bosch systems as with the ordinary system.

Finally, it has to be pointed out that the opinion about the Bosch knife was unfavourable on all the three Estates, so far as its durability is concerned. The price of a Bosch knife is 4 guilders (that is 8 times as high as the price of an ordinary tapping knife), and after using it for from 4 to 6 months, it was already worn out in one of the experiments.

Summary of different tapping experiments with the new Bosch Tapping System

By DR. J. C. S'JACOB

Different tapping experiments with the new 'Bosch' tapping system are described.

On Kali Doeren Estate this tapping method gave a loss of rubber of about 25 per cent in comparison with alternate daily tapping over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference. The greater part of this loss is due to the shortening of the tapping-cut. By the Bosch method the cut is $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference minus 12 cm. which in the case of Kali Doeren Estate gave a difference of 20 per cent in the length of the cut.

On Pagger Goenoeng there was found a loss of 27 per cent in comparison with tapping for alternate fortnights over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference. This was the greatest loss that was found in all the experiments. On Kali Doeren as well as on Pagger Goenoeng the so-called 'Bosch Vademeicum tap' was used.

On Trebla Sala the two 'Bosch' systems, namely the Vademeicum tap and the 'Worteldruktap' (Root pressure tapping) were compared with alternate half-monthly tapping over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference. With the Vademeicum tap, no difference was to be found and with the 'Worteldruktap', we found an increase of about 40 per cent. But here the trees were tapped daily over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference. So here the daily tapping over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference in the first year gave 40 per cent more rubber than alternate half-monthly tapping over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference which is a small increase in comparison with the results of other tapping experiments.

On Anim Sand I-IV after four months no difference was found between the Bosch Vademeicum tap the half-monthly tapping over $\frac{1}{2}$ circumference,

In an experiment in the experiment garden of the Besoekisch Proef station, the use of the Bosch knife and the ordinary knife was compared. After ten months, no reliable difference was to be found. At the tapping curves of the single trees it was to be seen that there was no reliable difference between the Bosch system and the system of daily tapping over $\frac{1}{3}$ circumference which was used formerly.

As the Bosch tapping system gives a rather great increase of the tapping costs, this system cannot be recommended for practical use.

U.P.A.S.I. General Reserve Fund

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Walmsley's letter in your issue of June 6, in so far as it refers vaguely to some agreement not detailed, is no reply to my letter in your previous issue.

The annual General Meeting of 1928 passed a definite resolution that 'surplus balances of departments should be placed into Upasi General Reserve, but that each individual department shall have a prior claim on the amount standing to its credit as from 1919.'

Until this resolution is cancelled or annulled by a succeeding General Meeting it holds good as an instruction to the Association's executive as to the way in which the Reserve Accounts should be drawn up, and any member of the Association is entitled to insist that this instruction shall be observed. Cancellation of it cannot be effected by any tacit understanding or otherwise than by a formal resolution of a General Meeting.

Perhaps you or the Secretary of the Upasi will inform us whether the procedure laid down in this resolution has been followed for the last two years, and if so when the statement for the year ending March 1931 will be available for publication.

In my previous letter I asked 'by whom has it been agreed that the Reserve Fund is common to all products ?'

I may be wrong but I can find in the Minutes no reference to any such formal agreement nor has Mr. Walmsley quoted one, and failing such formal resolution the Reserve Fund definitely is NOT common equally to all products but only to its subscribers.

I also asked 'from what Reserve Fund is it now proposed to make the withdrawal in favour of rubber.'

To this Mr. Walmsley replies 'from General Reserves, but does not specify from what compartment of the reserves ?' Is it to come from the compartment of 'Upasi Head Office Reserves' or from where ? This point needs definitely clearing up.

Yours, etc.,

June 29, 1931.

G. K. THOMAS.

[Editor's Note.—The statement referred to in Mr. Thomas's letter was prepared by the Auditors in 1927 and covered the period 1st April 1919–31st March 1927. This procedure has been carried on since the Auditor's report in 1927 and a statement drawn up in similar manner but it has not been published because it is not a part of the official Accounts of the Association. It is, on the contrary, a subsidiary statement drawn up in compliance with various resolutions passed at Bangalore in past years, so that the nominal credits and debits of the various products may be available for information when required.]

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING APRIL, 1931

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	162	...	1,987	337	4	...	300
Calicut	10	...	1,654	16,765	2,392	...	...
Mangalore	574	...	...	1,261	...	...	...
Tellicherry	2	...	...	...
Bombay
Total	...	746	185,114	3,641	18,365	2,396	231	300	904
Previously...	...	2,369	185,114	42,321	59,274	6,138	231	2,157	3,167
Total cwt.s. since 1-1-31.	327,443	3,115	185,114	45,962	77,639	8,554	231	2,457	4,071
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Calicut	19,970	8,448	...	...	...	56,000
Cochin	4,000	139,195	287,444	...	...	...	22,400
Mangalore	46,408	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	71,920	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	12,870	226,921	167,051	...	...	...	...
Total	...	16,870	504,414	462,943	...	...	...	78,400	...
Previously...	...	125,368	1,491,389	1,793,350	69,505	...	...	145,684	...
Total lbs. since 1-1-31.	4,637,863	142,178	1,995,803	2,256,293	69,505	...	...	224,084	...
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	1,256	...	1,128,486	1,448	...	...	...
Calicut	32,356	3,0	888,663	...	...	...	13,706
Cochin	33,266	14,881	9,190	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	97,174	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	126,871	1,231,588	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	18,701	3,255	126,967	...	...	...	...
Alleppey
Total	...	85,579	148,017	3,482,068	1,448	...	...	13,706	...
Previously...
Total lbs. since 1-4-31.	3,730,818	85,579	148,017	3,482,068	1,448	...	...	13,706	...

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized			Average prices obtained for tea			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending June 4, 1931	January 1 to June 4, 1931	January 1 to June 4, 1930
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, June 4, 1931).			N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Peria Karamalai	182	1 6½	S. India.	0 9·94	0 11·64	1 2·62
Velonie	66	1 5½	Ceylon.	a 1 3·55	b 1 1·63	c 1 3·57
Selaliparai	72	1 1½	Java	1 2·65	1 4·53	1 7·33
(a) Anamalais—			Sumatra.	0 6·76	0 7·96	0 10·06
Peria Karamalai	182	1 6½	Nyassa- l a n d .	0 7·79	0 8·73	0 11·35
Velonie	66	1 5½	Total...	0 6·72	0 7·65	0 9·26
Selaliparai	72	1 1½	d 0 11·41	e 1 0·59	f 1 3·37	
(b) Central Travancore—						
Glenmary	117	1 4				
*Fairfield	66	1 3½				
Twyford and Ashley—						
Vembanaad	120	1 2½				
Woodlands	67	1 2½				
Pambanaar	72	1 2½				
Mount	69	1 2				
(c) Kanan Devans—						
Periavurrai	53	2 0½				
Yellapatty	33	1 11½				
Nullantanni	54	1 10½				
Gundumallay	78	1 10½				
Sevenmallay	33	1 10½				
Thenmallay	100	1 9½				
Chundavurrai	38	1 9½				
Lockhart	97	1 8½				
Upper Surianalle	98	1 8½				
*Surianalle	86	1 7½				
Kalaar	50	1 7½				
(d) Nilgiris—						
Prospect	128	1 10½				
Bhwani	115	1 6½				

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

<i>a</i>	3,266	<i>b</i>	113,677	<i>c</i>	135,039
<i>d</i>	96,745	<i>e</i>	1,808,211	<i>f</i>	1,758,240

(B) RUBBER —

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Tuesday, June 30, 1931 was 3½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, June 27, 1931, were 82,441 tons, a decrease of 478 tons on June 20, 1931 inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, June 27, 1931, were 54,086 tons, a decrease of 336 tons on June 20, 1931 inventory.

(C) COFFEE—

Seven days ending June 10, 1931

District	Bags	s. d.	Grades
<i>Mysore—</i>			
Honnamenti	127	106 6	Extra and No. 1.
Do.	103	105 6	Extra, No. 1, 2 and 3.
Buskull Park	24	83 0	No. 1, 2 and 3.

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, July 2, 1931

Planting.—Although there was little business to report here either in Rubbers or Teas during the last fortnight, the market in Sterling Rubbers has become much brighter and prices were all marked up. Rubber Plantations improved from 12s to about 17/6d and Malayalam to over 9s. In Teas there was nothing doing. Raw Rubber is firmer at 3½d.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 9	+ 9d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 6 3	-
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 9 0	+ 2d.
4. Merlinau Rubber	2s.	0 1 3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	-
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	£	1	0 0 6	-
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 3 6	+ 1s. 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 17 0	+ 4s. 3d.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 10 0	+ 2s. 6d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	2½
Cochins Rs. 15	..	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	..	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	..	25
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	..	6
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	3
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	..	15½
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	..	27
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	..	20
Periasholas Rs. 10	..	1
Periyars Rs. 10	..	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	1½
Tirumbadis Rs. 10	..	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	77½
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	..	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on June 23, 1931, amounted to 2,270,095 lbs. Quality was about equal last week's but some Maturata and Nuwera Eliya teas showed improvement. Demand was irregular and the market was generally easier, except in the case of some teas showing improved quality. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATORATA.**—Quality from these districts was rather better. Broken grades met with irregular support but leaf grades sold well. **HIGH GROWN.**—Quality was maintained and while demand for leaf grades was fairly steady, Brokens were in poor request and many lots were withdrawn. **MEDIUM GROWN.**—Quality was satisfactory. Pekoes were firm, but other grades were irregular and easier. **LOW GROWN.**—There was a fair market for these teas at 2 to 3 cents decline on last week's prices. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.**—Good Fannings generally realized about last rates, other descriptions were neglected and easier.

South Indian Teas in Auction of June 16 obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Kanniamallay	21,651	60

RUBBER.—About 192 tons were offered at the Auction held on June 18, 1931. There was a good general demand and prices showed very little change. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet was a steady market at 14 cents showing no alteration in previous prices. All other grades of Sheet sold well at unchanged rates. Contract Crepe realized 14 cents showing an improvement of $\frac{1}{2}$ cents on last week's rates. Off Crepe showed a similar improvement while Mottled Brown sorts were about steady. The good demand for all grades of Scrap Crepe was maintained and there was a slight advance in the case of some medium sorts, otherwise prices were unchanged from the previous Auction. Inferior and earth sorts sold quite readily. Scrap may be quoted nominally 7 to 8 cents for best but there was none available in the Auction.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

June 14, 1931 to June 27, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor	1.19	0.42	1.61
2. Kaithurity.			...	25. Kotagiri	1.76	1.08	2.84
3. Kallar Bdg.	8.73	2.59	11.32	26. Ootacamund	0.22	0.31	0.53
4. Koney	...	...	...	27. Yercaud	0.37	1.33	1.70
5. Pattanapura.	5.71	2.56	8.27	28. Mango Range	5.89	0.99	6.88
6. Kumbazha...	7.04	2.01	9.05	29. Devala	8.93	...	...
6a Peravathan...	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	3.55	1.69	5.24
6b Aneikolam...	...	...	...	31. CALICUT	8.64	8.83	17.47
7. Peermade ...	15.34	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi	12.43	...	...
8. Twyford ...	20.27	6.06	26.33	33. Vayitri	8.62	3.34	11.96
9. V'periyar ...	16.47	5.82	22.29	34. Manantoddi	4.99	1.33	6.32
10. Kalaar ...	9.44	...	...	35. Billigiris	...	...	...
11. Chittuvurrai	0.48	0.27	0.75	36. Sidapur	2.85	2.05	4.90
12. BODI'KANUR	0.14	0.06	0.20	37. Ghatted Hulia	...	4.32	...
13. COCHIN	3.95	3.67	7.62	38. Pollibetta	...	...	...
14. Mooply ...	12.61	4.57	17.18	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	6.50	4.80	11.30	40. Sakiaspur	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	11.16	4.34	15.50	41. Kadamanie	12.67	8.06	20.73
17. POLLACHIE	...	0.21	...	42. Balehonnur...	3.00	10.32	13.32
18. Nell'pathy...	6.63	3.14	9.77	43. Morthisubgey.	4.21	...	...
19. Karapara ...	...	...	...	44. Kelagur	...	...	...
20. Pullengode..	5.42	1.47	6.89	45. Durgadbettä.	7.30	16.20	23.50
21. Nilambur ...	6.19	2.75	8.94	46. MANGALORE	10.86	7.49	18.35
22. Naduvattam	2.32	1.58	3.90	47. MADRAS	0.95	2.86	2.91
23. Nilgiri Peak	4.21	2.53	6.74				

* 7. Peermade.—Rainfall on 'Stegbrook' fortnight ending 20th June, 1931 = 24.37 in.

7. Koney.—Rainfall fortnight ending 20th June, 1931 = 14.07 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 15]

July 18, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Pest Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

WE should have liked to reproduce in this Journal an amusing skit on 'Tea' written by A. P. H. in *Punch*, dated 17th June, 1931, but, as there was no time to get their permission, we can only recommend it to Planters who appreciate A. P. H.'s type of humour.

THE Report of the Royal Commission on Labour in India is now to hand, just two years after the Commission was appointed, and consists of a document covering more than 500 pages with two separate Minutes submitted by Sir Victor Sassoon and Mr. Kabiruddin Ahmed.

The Whitley Commission Report. It is a record of far the most important effort made by the Governments of India and Great Britain to ameliorate the conditions of industrial labour in India, and the Whitley Commission have, in the course of two years' prolonged investigation and painstaking research, travelled over 16,000 miles involving an expenditure of about ten and a half lakhs of rupees. The defects and undesirable conditions existing in various Industries have been clearly pointed out by the Commission, and if their suggestions for the remedy are carried out, the health of workers and their housing will be greatly improved.

The main recommendations made by the Commission are for the improvement of the Factory Act such as reduction of factory hours from 60 to 54 with less hours for children and women, and various suggestions regarding the recruitment of labour and control of labour which, if adopted, will assuredly be an improvement on present conditions.

Insanitary conditions especially applying to unregulated factories which must be brought under proper inspection for Sanitation and other purposes, have come in for severe condemnation, and employers cannot do better than follow immediately the suggestions made without waiting for the legislation necessary to carry out the Commission's recommendations.

In conclusion, the revelations made by the Commission are certain to prove of the utmost value in determining legislation and other means which must be taken to create a higher standard of living.

COPIES of Dr. Leslie C. Coleman's three interesting bulletins on :

New Publications. (a) The Improvement of Coffee in the Dutch East Indies, (b) Agricultural Research and Demonstration in the Dutch East Indies, (c) Report on the Coffee Berry Borer *Stephanoderes Hampei*, Ferr in Java, have been received in the U. P. A. S. I. Office and will be distributed in due course among Coffee Planters outside Mysore State, who are members of the Association.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

10d. PACKET TEA

The introduction of a 10d.-per-lb. packet of tea is said to have created a better demand throughout the country, but there is still too much low-grade tea about for the trade to absorb. According to the *Grocers' Review*, if conditions do not speedily change, there is the possibility of an even lower-priced packet being introduced. If this materialises, consumers will be able to buy tea at a price such as has not been seen for a long time. The chief trouble for the blenders is the shortage of really good tea, and, whilst the public continues to demand a fine quality article, it means seriously depleting stocks of older-bought teas when quality was good and big prices being paid for the small supply at present available. This is the reason why large distributors are unable to reduce their prices in the higher-priced packets. Anyone requiring low-grade stuff can now secure it at almost any price. Much of the offerings at public auction this week failed to secure a bid of any sort.

* * *

BRITISH MOTOR TRADE'S BIG DEVELOPMENT IN ARGENTINA.

New Company Formed to handle Distribution and Service

That the British motor trade has a great opportunity in the Argentine is the opinion of Mr. R. C. Rootes, who has made a thorough survey of the country, and nothing short of the establishment of their own marketing organization can be sufficiently important to look after potential business. After coming to this conclusion, he immediately got in touch by telephone with the London headquarters of Rootes, Ltd. Conversation with his brother, Mr. W. E. Rootes, and other members of the board led to rapid decisions being taken, with the result that premises in a leading Buenos Aires thoroughfare are now under negotiation. A new company—Rootes (Argentina), Ltd.—is in process of formation, and will look after the distribution and servicing of the Humber-Hillman-Commer Group products.

Cars and spare parts had already been sent to Buenos Aires in connection with the British Trade Exhibition, and further orders received since it opened on March 14 were shipped immediately. Messrs. Rootes already have a resident representative and service engineer in the Argentine.

Mr. R. C. Rootes made it clear that an instantaneous response in large volume was improbable. He is convinced, however, that British cars and commercial vehicles have every opportunity of successfully pene-

trating Argentina's market so long as their manufacturers are prepared to continue with the courageous effort initiated by the Exhibition.

The Argentine market offers a fertile field for British endeavour, he says, and there can be no doubt that this country's prestige and trade will be enormously enhanced by energetic and courageous methods on the part of Britain's leaders of commerce. Certainly, the firm he represents has shown the way, and he emphasizes that they intend to stay there and make good.

* * * *

TYRE LIFE

The mileages which can be obtained with the modern pneumatic motor car tyre are getting so high that there is a very real trouble arising because of the fewer replacements which can be effected. With ordinary use a tyre should last at least 15-20,000 miles, and this to the average user means about three years' driving. When we consider that many of the tyres after re-treading will be capable of a further 10-12,000 miles or about two further years of life, a total of five years' life for one casing under normal conditions is not excessive. It is a pertinent question, therefore, to inquire whether tyres are not being made too good, particularly to-day, when the low price of rubber has reduced the consumption of reclaimed rubbers, used as cheapeners, to a low figure. (This does not affect those instances where reclaim is used for other reasons, such as a softener or a general aid to good processing.) The amount of carbon black used in tread rubber has crept up to a figure generally round about 50 per cent., and is only limited by the difficulties of adequate dispersion. Already many attempts have been made to secure better dispersion, for example, by mixing a dispersion of black in water with the aid of protective colloids, and introducing this mixture into latex, that the possibility of greatly superior tread wear is by no means an idle conjecture. If this advantage is secured and methods for using greater tread thickness, such as various firms have suggested and put forward from time to time in double-treaded, and recently triple-treaded tyres, one can see visions of the original tyres put on a car being taken off at the end of the car's allotted span and sent back by the careful user to the manufacturers for fitting to his new car! There is certainly sufficient serious food for thought to make the manufacturer begin to wonder.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

The United Planters' Association of Southern India (Incorporated)

Notice is hereby given :—

(i) That a Meeting of the *General Committee* of the United Planters' Association of Southern India will be held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Monday, the 17th August, 1931, commencing at 10 o'clock when the following items of the Agenda will be discussed:—Subscriptions; Order of Business at the Ordinary General Meeting; Rules; and Election of new member.

(ii) Also that a meeting of the *General Committee* of the United Planters' Association of Southern India will be held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Thursday, the 20th August, 1931, commencing at 10 o'clock (1) to elect an Executive Committee (2) Finance.

(iii) That the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the *Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund* will be held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Thursday, the 20th August, 1931, commencing at 10-30 o'clock to consider

- (1) The Secretary's Report
- (2) Accounts.

**THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHERN INDIA
(INCORPORATED)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Thirty-eighth Ordinary General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Association will be held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Monday, the 17th day of August, 1931, commencing at 2-30 o'clock of the afternoon and continuing on the following days for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Executive Committee, Accounts and Balance Sheet, electing a Chairman and Auditors for the ensuing year, and special business as set forth in the statement of Agenda printed below.

By Order of the
Executive Committee,
(Signed) C. H. BROCK,
Secretary.

MADRAS,
July 16, 1931.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1931

AGENDA

ORDINARY BUSINESS

1. The Chairman's Address.
2. Report of the Executive Committee.
3. Accounts 1930-1931.
4. Election of Chairman and Auditors.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

19. The Director's Report
20. The Labour Department.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

THE U.P.A.S.I.

5. Accounts.
6. Subscriptions and Disposal of Credit Balances.
7. Articles of Association.
8. Rules.
9. Provident Funds.
10. Sports Club.
11. Buying Agency.
12. Planters' Chronicle.
13. Affiliated Associations.

GENERAL.

21. Imitation and Rubbishy Teas.
22. Tea Propaganda in India.
23. Drawback on Tea Chests.
24. Stephanoderes.
25. Coffee Propaganda.
26. Copper Sulphate.
27. Tea.
28. Coffee.
29. Rubber.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

LEGISLATION

14. The Planting Member.
15. The Political Department.

30. General.

COMMUNICATIONS

16. Harbours.
17. Railways.
18. Roads.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

31. Tea.
32. Coffee.
33. Rubber.
34. 1931-1932.

BANGALORE CONFERENCE WEEK, AUGUST 1931.

With the approval of the Chairman, U.P.A.S.I., it has been decided to hold the usual Competition for the 'Dewar Challenge Cup', and the Bangalore Golf Club have been approached for permission to use their links as in previous years.

Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., *per* the Manager of the West End Hotel, have not yet intimated whether they will present prizes for the winners of the Russian Fleece Tournament, and a further announcement will be made later.

Entries for the Golf Competition can be made in advance to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., or posted on the Hotel Notice Board not later than 8 p.m. on Sunday, August 16, and must be accompanied by Entrants' handicap.

For the Russian Fleece Tournament, if held, two or more pairs can enter from any District or from the U.P.A.S.I. Department whether they are delegates or visitors.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MADRAS PLANTERS' CONSTITUENCY

NOTICE

Whereas the Madras Planters' Constituency of the Madras Legislative Council has been called upon by Notification to elect a member on or before August 20, 1931, I. C. H. Brock, the Returning Officer of the said Constituency, do hereby give the following

PUBLIC NOTICE

(i) The number of persons to be elected is one.

(ii) Nomination papers may be delivered to the undersigned at the offices of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Post Box No. 155, Madras. They should be presented between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on or before Wednesday, July 22, 1931.

(iii) Forms of nomination paper may be obtained at the offices of the person above mentioned between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on any week day up to and including July 21, 1931 and on Saturday, July 18, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

(iv) The nomination papers will be taken up for scrutiny at 11 a.m. on July 23, 1931 at the offices of the U.P.A.S.I.

(v) In the event of the election being contested, the poll will take place on August 15, 1931, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

C. H. BROCK,

Returning Officer,

Madras Planters' Constituency.

MADRAS,
July 14, 1931.

PAVEMENT UPLIFT.

The Chairman of the City Streets Committee, London, says he is expecting proposal for rubber street-paving.

The broadened pavement of our street
 Soft rubber now adorns ;
 Gone is the pain from my poor feet—
 I'm speaking of my corns.
 Gone is the crash of things that fell
 On concrete, wood or stone ;
 Those sounds that seemed to me like—well,
 How oft they made me groan !
 But, now, when things—or people—fall,
 No oath need I pronounce,
 Because, just like a rubber ball,
 They do not crash—they bounce.
 That folk hit things in their ascent,
 'Tis sad, but still 'tis true ;
 So, now, we really must invent
 Lamp-posts of rubber, too.

—COSMOS in the *News of the World*.

RUBBER EXPERIMENTAL STATION, MUNDAKAYAM.

REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 1931.

I. STAFF :

One change in the staff has to be reported. The Committee decided for reasons of economy to dispense with the services of Mr. T. R. Ramaier, and his period of service terminated on May 31st. The field work is now carried on by Mr. A. Krishna Pillai.

II. LABORATORY WORK :

(1) *Distinctive features of clones* :—

(a) *Cortex Examination*.—This has not progressed far and, at the time of writing no character has been observed which could be made use of for this purpose.

(b) *Leaf Measurements*.—This investigation has been continued throughout the quarter, and measurements are now available for 77 clones. From the figures obtained it appears that the method will be of value in a large number of cases, but in others the ratios are so similar as to preclude absolute certainty in distinguishing.

The two ratios a/b , a/c for each clone are now entered as ordinate and abscissa on graph paper and the point $a/b : a/c$ plotted. In a number of cases the standard error of the mean (e) of the measurements of each ratio has been worked out, and the plotting of the four points—

- (i) $a/b + 2e_1 : a/c$
- (ii) $a/b - 2e_1 : a/c$
- (iii) $a/c + 2e_2 : a/b$
- (iv) $a/c - 2e_2 : a/b$

enables an ellipse to be drawn within which the mean of any further measurements of the same clone should fall with high frequency. The adoption of this method also renders the difference between the ratios of different clones more obvious.

(c) It seems possible from the colour of the coagulum obtained from the different clones now in tapping that a method of distinguishing these might be worked out from latex tests. The probability is that the method mentioned recently in the D. E. I. by Dr. Bobiloff but of which no details have been observed to date hinges on some such procedure. It is thought that investigations on these lines might be of value, but this would mean the purchase of indicator dyes and other reagents, which expense is probably not justified at the present time.

III. FIELD WORK :

(1) Budding :—

Budding Return

Date	Clone	No. of Plants	Budwood from	Where Budded	Buds per Plant	Success	
						Plants	Buds
April '31							
1	G	60	No. 42 of '27 Clea- ring	1929 Nursery	1	38	38
2	BX	53	No. 102 Clearing	"	1	34	34
"	CC	53	" 342 of '23 "	"	1	17	17
6	CM	70	" 56 of '27 "	"	1	51	51
"	U	14	" 116 of '23 "	"	1	4	4
7	CP	9	" 38 of '27 "	"	1	9	9
"	Q	18	" 613 of '27 "	"	1	17	17
"	CZ	12	" 674 of '27 "	"	1	7	7
"	AA	12	" 679 of '26 "	"	1	4	4
"	CV	8	" 313 of '27 "	"	1	4	4
"	CF	8	" 216 of '27 "	"	1	2	2
8	I	5	Station	Budwood Nursery	4	3	11
"	II	5	"	"	2-4	3	10
"	III	6	"	"	4	6	22
"	IV	4	"	"	4	4	16
13	V	4	"	"	4	4	13
"	VI	4	"	"	4	4	12
14	VII	6	"	"	4	6	21
15	VIII	5	"	"	4	4	11
"	IX	5	"	"	4	5	13
16	X	4	"	"	4	3	9
17	XI	4	"	"	4	4	11
"	XII	5	"	"	4	5	15
"	XII	4	"	1922/23	1	1	1
18	XIII	4	"	Budwood	2-4	2	7
"	XIV	4	"	"	3-4	4	15
"	XV	6	"	"	3-4	6	22
20	da	1	"	Branch 567 ad	7	5	6
21	XVI	5	"	Budwood Nursery	3-4	2	6
"	XVII	6	"	"	2-3	4	9
"	XVIII	6	"	"	2-3	2	3
"	XIX	6	"	"	2-4	4	13
"	XIX	9	"	1929	1	9	9
"	XX	6	"	Budwood	4	0	0
22	XXI	5	"	"	3-4	3	4
"	XXII	4	"	"	1-4	0	0
"	XXIII	4	"	"	2-4	4	9
"	XXIV	4	"	"	2-4	4	10
"	XXV	5	"	"	2-4	1	1
"	XXVI	2	"	"	2	2	3
"	XXVII	2	"	"	2	2	3
23	XXVIII	5	"	"	4	0	0

Budding Return--contd.

Date	Clone	No. of Plants	Budwood from	Where Budded	Beds per Plant	Success	
						Plants	Buds
April '31					-		
23	BX	30	No. 102 of '27 Cl.	1929 Nursery	1	30	30
24	XXVIII	13	...	" "	1	0	0
"	XXIX	6	...	Budwood "	4	0	0
"	XXIX	24	...	1929	1	7	7
"	XXX	6	...	Budwood "	2-3	0	0
25	CC	75	No. 342 of '23 Cl.	1929	1	43	43
May 21	da	1	Station	Branch of 17 P	9	6	7
"	da	1	"	" 458 F	12	2	2
"	da	1	"	" 456 E	5	4	4
"	da	1	"	" 512 I	7	5	6
23	da	3	"	Roots of 3 Old trees	1-2	2	3
"	da	20	"	Roots of Young trees	1-2	17	17
26	dd	8	"	1927 Clearing	2	7	10
27	cz	14	"	"	2	5	6
"	XXXI	5	...	Budwood Nursery	3-4	4	5
"	XXXI	15	...	1929	1	12	12
"	da	8	Station	1927 Clearing	2	8	15
28	XXXII	6	...	Budwood Nursery	3-4	1	1
29	XXXIII	6	...	" "	2-4	1	1
"	XXXIV	5	...	" "	4	5	9
"	XXXV	6	...	" "	3-4	6	22
June 27	XXXII	10	Budded stumps received from R' Harley, Esq.				

As will be seen from the Budding Return this work has been varied.

Four clones which had very few representatives on the Station and which showed promise were multiplied in the 1929 nursery. Blocks of 25 of each of these have been planted out in a small block of land which was reclaimed from a squatter.

Other budding done in the 1929 nursery was for the purpose of supplying vacancies existing in the 1927 clearing.

As the 1928 clearing is completely given over to material selected by the 'Tube Bore' method it was thought unnecessary to retain the numerous seedling trees scattered throughout the 1927 clearing, and certain of these have been budded with material from neighbouring budded trees. As far as possible this budding has been arranged to give compact clones of 20 trees but owing to the irregular arrangement of the original planting, no doubt intended to average out soil conditions, the outline of these blocks is very irregular. In the case of these trees the budding was done at a height of 2 feet above ground level. This will enable both stock and scion to be tapped and evidence on the value of 'Tube bore' selection will still be available even if slightly modified by effect of scion.

In the Budwood nursery 35 clones have been put out. This figure includes 15 which were already established on the Station but inadequately represented. The remainder have been introduced from estates, and thanks are due to the Superintendents for budwood, in one case budded stumps, and for facilities afforded to Mr. Abraham on his visits to secure data of mother trees.

The success obtained in actual budding has been varied and in most cases cause of failure has been traced. For example clone 'cc' buds with difficulty. Previous Station records show this and during the current quarter budding from this clone has been done by two different men on the best available stocks. Success has been meagre in both cases.

In the budwood nursery the success obtained is considered reasonable. Those clones which failed completely were budded in some cases from difficult material from unpollarded trees and in others from the green tops of branches cut for budwood for use elsewhere. Green budwood gives excellent results but there is a limit to the stage of immaturity at which it can be used and this was overstepped in the case of clones 28, 29 and 30.

From the appearance of the shoots appearing on those budwood nursery plants already cut back the use of 3 year-old nursery stock appears to be fully justified. The buds were attached at heights averaging 3 feet and the shoots appearing are vigorous and show promise of good supplies of first class budwood. The nursery beds, it is true, are irregularly spaced but they have been separated by single wire fences, and each plant is labelled. There is therefore little chance of mixing up and what is lost in neatness is made up in vigour of growth.

The budding on to roots, and to branches is an attempt to discover a method of obtaining uniform stocks so as to permit of a study of effect of stock on scion. This effect has been denied in certain quarters except from a point of view of growth but even if only in this way is it evidenced it is of great importance. The dwarfing effect of certain of our seedling stocks is clearly shown by the appearance of the 'elephant foot' so common on budded clearings. By root budding, which appears to be reasonably successful, it is hoped to raise a sufficient number of plants of different clones, and combinations to permit of a critical study of this factor. In the case of the budded branches these are to be marcotted off at a distance of about 9 inches below the point of insertion of the bud. It is improbable that this method will prove of the same value, as a 'fibrous' root system will be developed with no definite tap-root and therefore insecure anchorage and deficient drought-resisting qualities.

To revert to the budding on to well grown three-year old seedlings, in the 1927 clearing, this may prove of value in practice. There are at present many clearings of age 3-5 years planted up with unselected or only partly selected material. The possibility of budding these must engage the attention of owners.

Budding on to old trees is unlikely to have any practical application other than a possible method of raising budwood quickly by making use of a large well established root system.

(2) *Test Tapping*.—Tapping was started on April 1st, and the first collection of latex made on April 7th. The 245 trees of sufficient size to tap (40 cm. girth at 1 metre height) are divided into two blocks and tapped on alternate days. The latex is coagulated in the aluminium cups by the addition of 2 per cent acetic acid and all cups are brought to the laboratory on trays specially prepared for the purpose. It is there passed two or three times through a smooth sheet roller, then impaled on a wire, one wire being provided for each tree, and numbered accordingly. At the end of each month the wires now holding the total yield for the tree for that month are placed in a heated cupboard for 10-14 days by which time the 'biscuits' are dry. The rubber on each wire is then weighed and divided by the number of tappings, this giving average yield per tapping. Scrap is weighed separately, but added to the other to obtain total yield.

Other figures have been worked out, e. g. yield per centimetre of cut, yield per square centimetre of bark removed, scrap as a percentage of total yield, etc.

Where two cuts have been opened on one tree the yield of the top cut is entered in the accompanying table as 1 A, 5 A, etc. It will be seen that the yield is less than that obtained from the lower cut by a considerable amount, averaging during April, 33 per cent. As a stool has to be used by the tapper to reach the higher cut the tapping is not of the same high standard and more bark has been removed in the same time. This and the slightly shorter cut, no doubt account for part of the difference in yield between the two cuts.

Clone	Estate of origin				Number of trees tapped	Average per tapping	Average per tapping per cm. of cut
P	Kadamankulam	...	...	...	97	(grams) 5·21	(grams) ·208
Z	Yendaray	...	...	...	7	3·94	·168
X	"	...	...	...	4	2·82	·108
Y	"	...	...	...	2	7·25	·330
ad	Aneikulam	...	...	...	3	4·30	·194
af	"	...	...	...	9	6·36	·256
ag	"	...	...	...	3	6·06	·264
ay	"	...	...	...	1	5·75	·240
bb	"	...	...	...	1	5·44	·234
av	"	...	...	...	2	4·37	·197
aw	"	...	...	...	1	5·81	·246
ac	"	...	...	...	1	8·31	·333
ah	"	...	...	...	2	2·25	·177
ar	"	...	...	...	5	5·21	·219
am	"	...	...	...	1	2·63	·134
as	"	...	...	...	2	7·69	·335
al	"	...	...	...	1	3·38	·139
S	Redlynch	...	...	...	1	10·5	·376
T	"	...	...	...	2	4·30	·162
u	Neunmeny	...	...	...	1	6·93	·300
v	"	...	...	...	2	6·69	·261
r	Kutikul	...	...	...	1	1·53	·060
n	Mundakayam	...	...	...	18	7·11	·276
m	"	...	...	...	20	4·28	·181
aa	Shaliacary	...	...	...	1	5·06	·212
e	Station	...	...	...	2	2·56	·104
f	"	...	...	...	1	5·12	·237
g	"	...	...	...	1	3·69	·162

A study of the above table will show the melancholy fact that while many show a higher yield than the average estate tree, none of our clones already under tapping yield anything like that reported from F. M. S. and D. E. I. It must be remembered however that at present the average yield per acre obtained in South India compares unfavourably with that of certain other rubber growing countries, and it is probable that even material from 'proved' clones imported may not provide trees of a greater productivity at like age than those above reported on.

It is intended to publish a like table of yields each quarter so that estates can follow the history of the plants grown from the material they originally provided, and make arrangements for the multiplication of clones which show promise. No remarks will be made on identical trees in this report until one year's tapping results are available.

(3) *Opening Work.*—The block of land mentioned under this heading in my previous report has been holed and cover crops have been sown. From this area there has been no run-off of water to date (June 30). 112 holes only were cut at 12 feet intervals along the terraces. It was therefore possible to plant up only 25 budded plants of each of the 4 clones mentioned previously. This has been done and each plant has the clone letter painted on it. The four clones form compact blocks, and this should facilitate tapping and yield recording work. On the other part of the Station individual yield records are essential and therefore when more and more trees reach a tappable size the work is multiplied. With an arrangement such as that employed in this recent planting one bucket only is required for each clone and by division an average yield per tree or per unit length of cut is obtained which is of more value than that from single trees. Soil variation is not believed to be so great as to be the means of condemning any clone which is likely to be of any great value.

(4) *Water Conservation.*—This problem was briefly mentioned in last report, and the only fact worth recording now has already been spoken of in the previous section, viz., that no run-off of water has taken place on the platform terraced area.

Such a fact is not of such great importance at this time of year, and in fact it may be injurious by assisting in the leaching out of soluble plant foods from the soil, but it is important to know that at least small areas can be opened in such a way as to retain in the soil as much water as it can comfortably carry. The importance comes in in the lighter N. E. Monsoon period. All water conserved then is valuable if stored in such a way as to be available for the crop during the extensive dry period.

A study of rainfall distribution in conjunction with water conservation is being made and will be reported on later.

(5) *Weeding.*—Approximately half of the Station was selectively weeded early in the quarter, leguminous plants only being left, and on most of this area a good green cover of beneficial plants is now established. This half has been weeded once or twice to give the legumes a proper chance of establishing themselves, and no further attention will be necessary except at intervals.

The growth of weeds on the remainder of the Station has once more been sickled down.

IV. PESTS AND DISEASES

(1) *Bandicoots.*—Very few of these remain, and the use of Cyanogas can be thoroughly recommended.

(2) *Sunscorch of young plants.*—Several cases have been attended to. A few plants were also lost before the rains started owing to the drought. In all cases they were found to be growing in shallow soil overlying rock. These have not been replaced.

V. LEGUMINOUS PLANTS

A number of indigenous and other leguminous plants have been collected and planted out in small beds. The object in view is to obtain suitable cover crops and green manures for use in work projected in connection with soil and water conservation.

VI. GENERAL

The work on the water supply has been completed and is considered satisfactory. The pumping outfit is however still out of order, and it is thought will require replacement when funds permit.

A little attention has been given to the road, and 'Scupper' drains have been cut throughout its length. Two corners in which the slope was quite wrong have been slightly banked at small cost, and are not now so badly washed during the rains.

VII. WEATHER RECORDS.

The rainfall for the quarter April-June 1931 has amounted to 49.02 inches distributed as below :—

<i>Month</i>	<i>1st Fortnight</i>	<i>2nd Fortnight</i>
April 1931	8.75	1.92
May ,,	5.35	4.25
June ,,	11.56	17.19
	—	—
Total ...	25.66	23.36
		49.02

MUNDAKAYAM,
July 7, 1931.

R. A. TAYLOR,
Rubber Scientific Officer.

TEA CONSUMPTION

Last year, and it looks as if this year also, will go down in the annals as the most disastrous in the history of the tea plantation industry. The over-production of the leaf, excessive stocks, and competition of foreign growths, together with the general world trade depression, has had the effect of bringing the price for tea, save for the good quality product, to an unremunerative level—a level below the cost of production. A glance at the results of the past season's working by the tea companies, reflects the unfortunate and trying times through which the industry is passing. One rather satisfactory feature, however, is the increase in consumption that took place last year. Figures compiled by the Tea Brokers' Association of London of the imports of tea for home consumption into the principal countries for the twelve months ended December last show that just 5½ million pounds more went into consumption. The figure given being 862,400,000 lb., against 856,860,000 lb. in 1929. These figures, while necessarily provisional, are of considerable interest. Home consumption, including Northern Ireland, is given at 432,600,000 lb., against 421,278,728 in 1929. Canada, at 50,885,670 lb., took just over 12 million pounds more; British Malaya imported 1½ million less; Germany about 1 million more; Soviet Union 10 million less; Persia 1 million more, and the U.S.A. 4 million pounds less. This last figure is disquieting in view of the strenuous efforts and large sums of money spent by the Indian tea producers in furthering the sales of Indian tea in the United States. There are many critics of the Indian publicity campaign in the U.S.A., and these figures show that the total consumption of tea in that country is declining, although it is to be pointed out that the imports of Indian tea there is increasing. It is increasing, however, to the detriment of other growths, and has not had the effect of increasing the consumption of tea, for unless the general consumption is increased, tea displaced merely meets the produce of India in some other market, and the world level of tea of any growth is reduced,

because of excess production or insufficient consumption. The ideal method of increasing the tea habit is by collective advertising ; to advertise tea as tea, irrespective of the country of origin. To this end, plans are proceeding apace, and it is hoped that something definite will soon be evolved.—*Home and Colonial Mail.*

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COFFEE BOARD BILL DISPLEASES

PLANTERS AND QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE

The Council of the Coffee Planters' Union of Kenya and East Africa, which is affiliated to the British Empire Producers' Organization, decided on April 27 to reject what is known as the Coffee Industry Bill, published in the Official Gazette of April 21.

The decision was reached at an emergency meeting of the Council, called specially to consider this 'Bill to establish a Board for the Improvement of the Marketing of Coffee.' The Bill was published without its terms being referred to the Coffee Planters' Council, and in a Press Communiqué, Mr. C. Kenneth Archer, their Chairman, stated that the provisions of the Bill were at complete variance with the suggestions made to Government over a series of years for the establishment of a Coffee Board.

The Bill as drafted, Mr. Archer said, did not conform to the principle for which coffee planters had been long contending, the mutual financing of a Coffee Board whose personnel should be partly official and partly unofficial. It was considered that the only justification for Government representation on such a Board was its financial contribution to the fund. The present Bill did not provide for such a contribution. The Coffee Planters' Union realized that funds to cover the activities of the Board on an extensive scale could not be expected this year, but thought that provision should have been made in the Bill for their proper finance in the future. Government's failure to commit itself to a pound-for-pound basis of contribution in succeeding years could only lead to the rejection of the Bill by the industry.

The principle of co-operation was originally approved at the annual general meeting of the Coffee Planters' Union in July, 1923. Six months later, at a meeting of the Union's Council, the Hon. A. Holm, Director of Agriculture, supported the principle of a coffee cess, providing his Department controlled expenditure from the fund. In September, 1924, the Union agreed with the principle of a tax on acreage ; and at the annual general meeting in July, 1925, Sir Edward Denham, Acting Governor, said Government considered that the coffee industry should contribute to the cost of necessary services and could look to Government for co-operation. A resolution was passed in favour of a Coffee Board with full executive powers. In June, 1929, at a special general meeting, a committee was appointed which drafted proposals for a Coffee Board. Their report was adopted, and its recommendations were published in EMPIRE PRODUCTION (February, 1930, page 42). When it was submitted to the Governor he proposed that the Council should meet the Director of Agriculture and draft legislation and estimates.

In the latter half of 1930, the Coffee Consulting Committee recommended that the draft Bill be passed by the Legislative Council, but that its

operation be suspended in view of the financial situation. The Union accepted amendments to the Bill. In March, 1931, the Attorney-General informed the Council that Government did not propose to introduce the Bill; a deputation went to the Governor, and on April 21, the Bill was published as stated above.

In the early stages, the importance of increased Coffee Services, owing to the inadequacy of those vided by Government, to investigate and combat disease was stressed, though the risks to an unorganized industry in the event of a collapse of markets was not lost sight of. When the economic situation became acute owing to the slump in commodity values, it was realized that the Colony's resources did not warrant immediate participation in a scheme for largely increased services and that this object would have to remain in abeyance till there was some readjustment of world conditions.

Meanwhile the fall in commodity markets and the increased competition resulting therefrom has made it more than ever imperative that the marketing of Kenya coffee should be placed on an organized basis, that new markets should be explored, that the establishment of a local market should be considered and that the investigation of coffee economies to ensure cheaper production should be undertaken. All these would be the appropriate functions of a Coffee Board.

Early in 1930, in response to the representation of the Coffee Planters' Union, the Government drafted a Bill, which was never published, but was submitted to the Union for its consideration. This Bill provided for the establishment of a Coffee Board with Government and unofficial (both planter and commercial) representation, finance to be provided half by the industry itself, through a system of licences, and half by Government out of general revenue.

The economic collapse of a year ago resulted in Government's decision not to proceed with the Bill, but the Coffee Planters' Union continued negotiations for its introduction to the Legislative Council on the understanding that for the present year, 1931, no demand must be made on Government for the provision of any funds out of general revenue and the suggestion was made by this Council that the 1930 Bill should be introduced with the addition of a clause empowering Government to withhold its contribution for the current year and to limit the contribution from planters to 30s. per head (in addition to the existing tax of 30s., for the spending of which Government had already budgetted this year). At an interview with His Excellency on March 30 last, these proposals were put forward and discussed, and the next intimation the Union received of Government's intentions in the matter, was the publication of the new Bill.—*Empire Production and Export.*

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TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA—

13,110 packages were offered in Auction on Thursday. This was probably the best market of the week and very little was taken out. Dusts, Fannings and tippy Broken Orange Pekoes sold well, but common to medium Brokens were irregular and sometimes easier.

TEA PROPAGANDA

Colombo, Tuesday, June 30.—The Ceylon Association in London can no longer be accused of half-heartedness in its realization that a tea propaganda scheme, to serve any useful purpose, must be on a large scale. In a cable received by the Ceylon Estates Proprietary Association from London today, it is stated that the Council unanimously decided that the United States of America offers the best field for tea propaganda, but that it is inexpedient to operate there on a lesser scale than £300,000 per annum for the first two years and £200,000 per annum for each of the three following years, and it is proposed to invite the Indian Association to collaborate in a campaign on these lines. Consideration of the selection of America as the most valuable market may be deferred until we have glanced at the significance of the increased amount it is proposed to raise. It is exactly double. The original scheme was to impose a cess of half cent a pound. It is now proposed to ask the Ceylon Government to approve the imposition of a cess not exceeding one cent per pound. Presupposing agreement is reached on this point, calculations based on approximate figures show that on a crop in India of 360,000,000 lbs. a one cent per lb. cess would produce £270,000, and a total output of 240,000,000 lbs. in Ceylon would produce £180,000, giving a total of £450,000 for tea advertising purposes. Towards the £300,000 needed for the first year India would be called upon to contribute £180,000 and Ceylon £120,000. On the ground that anything that is worth doing is worth doing well, and that an advertising campaign to be successful must be done well, agreement may be forthcoming regarding the proposed increase in the cess, but differences of opinion—more especially in India—are likely to arise in the selection of America as the country in which the money is to be spent. Opinions recently expressed in the Press make it doubtful whether a majority on the Indian Cess Committee will agree to contribute £180,000 a year for this purpose. At the half-yearly meeting of the Committee in March, 1930, an allotment of £50,000 (the same as in the previous year) was made to the United States, but an indication was given that for the year 1931–32 it might be necessary to reduce this allotment to £40,000, and in preparing the Budget for 1931–32, the Committee took a halfway course and proposed to recommend £45,000. Later, on vigorous representations from London, the amount was increased to £50,000. The allocation has been the subject of lively controversy—in the course of which the administration of the Funds has come in for severe criticism. The London Committee strongly represented to the Head Office that the work being done in America ‘appears to be beginning to yield useful results,’ and it was added that ‘the campaign in America is now on right lines.’ Both these statements have been most emphatically repudiated in India and in London, and, rather more than a month ago, the *Planters’ Journal* frankly accused the London branch of the Indian Tea Association of a ‘deliberate attempt to mislead the Head Office in India.’ The consumption of tea in America from all sources in 1929–30 was 86,369,000 lbs. as compared with 96,636,000 lbs. in 1928–29; 90,189,000 lbs. in 1927–28; 97,740,000 lbs. in 1926–27; 99,412,000 lbs. in 1925–26 and 92,780,000 lbs. in 1924–25. Commenting on this the *Planters’ Journal* states:—‘Therefore it is clearly evident that the London Committee has been talking nonsense about yielding useful results, and that the Indian Tea Cess Committee has, owing to the undue influence exercised by the London Committee, increased expenditure in America which will give no adequate return.’ Letters which have appeared in the *Statesman* and other Indian journals indicate that this view is widely held, and it will be interesting

to see what attitude the Indian Tea Cess Committee will adopt when called upon to increase the allocation for America from £50,000 to £180,000. In view of the length of time which the deliberations of the Ceylon Association have occupied, it is only fair to assume that the Tea Propaganda Sub-Committee and the Council have weighed every possible argument before coming to the conclusion that the United States of America offers the best field for tea propaganda, and, on the principle that it is better to accept some definite proposal than to dally with a number of proposals and do nothing with any of them, the findings of the Committee cannot lightly be condemned. Unfortunately, decision does not rest with Ceylon. This country is helpless without the co-operation of India, and, consequently, reception of the proposal in India will be awaited with no small amount of anxiety.

On the basis of the figures we have given, Ceylon, if the scheme goes through, will be left with the balance of £60,000. The Ceylon Association proposes that a portion of this should be expended on a campaign in the United Kingdom jointly with India, and the hope is expressed that Ceylon will organise a campaign locally and examine the possibilities of Australasia. At the moment these proposals are of comparative insignificance. The chief consideration lies in increasing the cess from half a cent to one cent and coming to an agreement with the Indian Tea Cess Committee to expend £300,000 per annum for two years in America. It is a proposal that so far exceeds anything that has gone before that most people, we imagine, will feel that a decision cannot be come to lightly. The Ceylon Association in London, however, may rest content that there will be little delay in Ceylon. A meeting of the Local Tea Propaganda Committee has already been convened, and, from information at our disposal, it is clear that if the decision rested on Ceylon alone an active tea propaganda campaign would be inaugurated without any loss of time. Everything, however, turns on the Indian Tea Cess Committee and it is quite impossible to predict what decision that very divided body will reach. A certain amount of significance attaches to the fact that the London branch was able to persuade the headquarters to increase the allotment from £45,000 to £50,000, but an allocation of £180,000 will inevitably stiffen those who are opposed to advertising in America.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Relief for Planters—One-day Pay Fund suggested *The Editor, The Planters' Chronicle*

SIR,

One hears rumours, which need no confirmation, of married men with families on low country estates whose salaries have been reduced to as low as Rs. 250 per month, a salary on which a married European can hardly exist.

What is being done about it in South India, as far as I know, is nothing and there are many who are too proud to ask for help.

Can we not start a one-day fund, the same as Ceylon, without cumbersome rules and regulations which could be managed by the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. and the Chairmen of District Associations so that immediate help can be given without publicity.

There are, I am sure, many Planters who would be willing to subscribe.

Yours, etc.,

'ONE OF THEM.'

June 29, 1931.

Tea Propaganda—more Advertising required!

The Editor, The Planters' Chronicle

SIR,

The thing that strikes a great many people most, when on leave from the East in the old country, is the way people have got into of 'taking things lying down' e.g. the Socialist Government with its iniquitous Land Tax!

The same applies to the Tea Trade. Nothing—or at least nothing effective—is being done to improve the position, which, though of course not so bad as rubber yet, is sufficiently parlous.

Advertising is the certain remedy; but this must be conducted on a proper scale and not on the present utterly inadequate lines.

The £50,000 spent annually by the I.T.C.C. in U.S.A. might as well be thrown into the Atlantic for all the good it can do.

Either a much larger sum (say £300,000) should be spent or the expenditure stopped altogether.

As regards the Continent, I believe there is good authority for stating that a really well-run advertising campaign for Tea would produce results that would astonish Mincing Lane is quite feasible but £100,000 a year would be necessary; a mere flea-bite if spread over the whole of Indian and Ceylon tea acreage.

I can give further particulars of this scheme if it would be of interest.

Then there is India, where one is glad to see there are at last some faint signs of the I.T.C.C. waking up and doing something. *The Planters' Journal and Agriculturist's* recent comments on the way the I.T.C.C. work, are of great interest and might be reproduced in your columns with advantage.

The writer's humble opinion is that the Indian Tea Association in London, the Ceylon Association, London, and the S.I.A. should hold a conference without delay to decide what steps can be taken to put the advertising of TEA on an efficient basis. It is up to these Associations to give the planting world a lead, and it is full time that they did so instead of continuing the *laissez-faire* policy which is the curse of England to-day not only in the Tea Trade but in most other industries.

Apologising for unloading my worthless views on you at such length,

Yours, etc.,

WAKE UP AND ADVERTISE.

P.S.—Advertising Tea in the U.K. is also certain to produce results and should be tried, i.e. advertising Empire Tea, of course. People at home have no idea how much Java Tea is sold and what poor stuff it is. A well-run advertising campaign would soon educate them.

'Java Tea'*The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

I suggest it would be of great interest to your readers if you could obtain and publish any authentic figures of the cost of tea production in Java.

SHOLAYAR ESTATE, SHOLAYAR P.O.,
July 6, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
A. C. COTTON.

[*Editor's Note.*—We will do our best to obtain information and publish same, but if any of our readers can give authentic figures, we should like to have them.]

'Coffee Spraying'*The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

I would like to acknowledge Capt. Windle's graceful tribute, in your issue of the 4th instant, to the Pioneers of Spraying. As a matter of fact, the late Mr. W. Rahm and I were the first to put it to practical use, but, for being able to do so, the help given by the Mysore Agricultural Department and Dr. Kunhi Kannan in particular, have to be acknowledged. Their advice, and help in obtaining a battery of Holder Sprayers, which were then the only machines that had been tried, were invaluable.

The Public memory is proverbially short but I did not think it was quite as short as it evidently is. It was in 1925 that Mr. W. Rahm and I first started and as we could not begin before August, I sprayed only 18 acres on my Estate with Rosin Bordeaux that year. Such wonderful results were obtained in the following year, which was a notably bad one on account of the torrential rains in January, that in 1926 I sprayed the whole of my Estate and have continued to do so every year since. In that year my brother went to England leaving his Estate in my charge, and I induced him to let me invest in a complete Spraying outfit with which I sprayed the whole of his Estate, and in the following year he picked the biggest crop he had ever had. My results were so satisfactory (and, I may add, have continued to be so) that, much to my subsequent regret, I could not keep the knowledge to myself, and launched out as a journalist by accepting the responsibility of supplying the *Planters' Chronicle* with 'District Notes' from the Shevaroys wherein I went into great detail regarding the subject of spraying and possibly got, scientifically, beyond my depth. Anyway, these enthusiastic effusions brought in such an amount of correspondence that I began to think it would be necessary to engage a Private Secretary, but I managed to avoid this expense by a final adventure, which appeared in your issue of October 2, 1926. In this an attempt was made to cover all the points raised by my correspondents and after that I discreetly laid low, thinking it wiser to leave any further dissertations on the subject to more scientific brains.

Other flights of mine into the realms of journalism, wherein I have touched upon the subject of Spraying, occur in your issues of 1925 September the 5th and October the 3rd, and 1926 February the 6th, April the 24th and August the 14th.

**MARYLANDS ESTATE,
YERCAUD,
SHEVAROY HILLS,
July 15, 1931.**

Yours, etc.,
E. H. A. TRAVERS-DRAPES.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING MAY, 1931

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	...	...	477	...	1,204	1,035	...	...	...
Calicut	...	...	305	...	1	1	...	...	40
Cochin	...	...	...	139	1,360	14,368	1,324	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	90	75	...	...	200
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total	...	921	185,414	2,655	15,478	1,325	231	2,457	240
Previously...	3,115	185,414	48,617	93,117	8,554	...	...	...	4,071
Total cwts. since 1-1-31.	348,062	...	4,036	185,414	93,117	9,879	231	2,457	4,311
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Madras	...	...	...	...	69,529	...	...	276	...
Calicut	...	...	...	35,490	43,734	...	...	22,400	...
Cochin	...	...	...	...	32,276	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	46,740	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	11,516	10,836	257,153	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	47,006	125,070	760,416	...	...	...	...	...
Previously...	142,173	1,985,803	2,256,233	69,505	...	...	...	22,676	...
Total lbs. since 1-1-31.	5,643,031	...	189,184	2,120,873	3,016,709	69,505	...	224,084	...
Previously...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	246,760	...
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	...	...	724	...	60	1,268	432	...	...
Calicut	...	...	37,165	15,678	971,621	...	...	23,966	...
Cochin	...	...	63,930	...	1,593,825	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	...	...	7,633	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	...	...	85,136	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	175,290	1,421,588	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	2,055	4,120	55,537	...	...	...	2,645
Total	...	103,874	195,688	4,135,420	1,268	432	...	23,966	2,645
Previously...	85,579	148,017	3,482,068	1,448	...	...	...	13,706	...
Total lbs. since 1-4-31.	8,193,511	...	189,453	343,105	7,617,488	2,716	432	37,672	2,645

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized			Average prices obtained for tea					
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending June 11, 1931	January 1 to June 11, 1931	January 1 to June 11, 1930		
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, June 11, 1931).			N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Sririkundra	66	1 3½	S. India.	0 8·35	0 11·50	1 2·55		
Stanmore	70	1 3	Ceylon.	a 0 10·91	b 1 1·45	c 1 3·63		
Peria Karamalai	285	1 2½	Java	1 1·35	1 4·31	1 7·26		
Selaliparai	107	1 1½	Sumatra.	0 5·85	0 7·86	0 10·06		
(b) Central Travancore—			Nyassa- l a n d .	0 6·36	0 8·54	0 11·34		
Glenmary	75	1 3½	Total...	0 5·92	0 7·58	0 9·26		
*Bon Ami	105	1 2	d 0 10·07	e 1 0·46	f 1 3·32			
Carady Goody	100	1 2						
(c) Kanan Devans—								
Chundavurrai	51	1 9½	<i>N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—</i>					
*Nettigudi	99	1 7½	a 7,393	b 121,070	c 140,259			
Lockhart	84	1 7½	d 101,454	e 1,909,665	f 1,846,160			
Guderale	74	1 7½						
Pullivasal	67	1 7						
Vagavurrai	94	1 5½						
*Upper Surianalle	34	1 5						
Periakanal	37	1 4½						
*Kalaar	22	1 3						
*Talliar	93	1 2						
Chattamanaar	85	1 2						
(d) Nilgiris—								
Prospect	115	1 7½						
Terramia	31	1 6						
Parkside	79	1 5½						
*Brooklands	101	1 3½						
*Ibex Lodge	80	1 3½						

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

*a 7,393 b 121,070 c 140,259
d 101,454 e 1,909,665 f 1,846,160*

(B) RUBBER —

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Tuesday, June 14, 1931 was 3½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, July 11, 1931, were 82,079 tons, a decrease of 91 tons on July 4, 1931 inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, July 11, 1931, were 54,522 tons, a decrease of 78 tons on July 4, 1931 inventory.

(C) COFFEE—

Week ending June 17 and 24, 1931

District	Bags	s. d.	Grades	District	Bags	s. d.	Grades
Anamallais—				Mysore—(contd.)			
Valparai ...	165	82 8	1, 2, 3&T (17)	H. C. S. S. ...	17	101 0	No. 1 (17)
Kanan Devans—				Olivers K. ...	44	90 9	1, 3, PB & T (17)
Elephant Devacolum.	124	89 10	1, 2, 3&T (17)	H. C. K. ...	45	83 0	No. 1 & 2 (17)
Mysore—				Nilgiri Wynnaad-			
H. M. Attikan ...	20 24	121 120 6 0	No. 1 (17) Do. (17)	Tulloes W. P. C.	18	77 3	Extra and PB (24)

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, July 16, 1931

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		L	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 9	+ 9d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 6 3	-
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 9 0	+ 2d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	-
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 6	-
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 3 6	+ 1s. 3d.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 17 0	+ 4s. 3d.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 10 0	+ 2s. 6d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	2½
Cochins Rs. 15	..	9
Devasholas Rs. 9	..	6
Halleburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	..	6
Malankaras Rs. 30	..	22½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	..	6
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	2½
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	..	14
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	..	27
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	..	21
Perisholas Rs. 10	..	1
Periyars Rs. 10	..	3
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	..	6
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	75
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	..	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on July 7, 1931, totalled 2,111,537 lbs. Demand was active and prices generally showed an improvement. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA.**—Supplies were somewhat limited but quality was distinctly better. Demand was strong especially for leaf grade, and considerably higher rates were readily paid, quotations following quality in all cases. **HIGH GROWN.**—Quality showed some improvement, a number of invoices from Uva and surrounding districts being noticeable in this respect. Broken grades were well supported while leaf grades in those cases where quality was improved, were actively supported, quotations showing considerable advances. **MEDIUM GROWN.**—Quality was fairly satisfactory, a few teas showing improvement, demand was somewhat irregular, and Broken Orange Pekoes in many cases failed to find buyers, leaf teas however especially the better sorts were distinctly dearer. **LOW GROWN.**—There was a distinctly better demand. Brokens were about 2 cents dearer, Orange Pekoes fully firm while Pekoes were fully 3 cents higher. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.**—Best quality fannings and dusts were wanted and realised enhanced prices, other descriptions remained steady.

South Indian Teas in Auction of June 23 and 30, respectively obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Date	Total lbs.	Average
Manalaroo ...	23	4,430	34
Balamore ...	23	4,641	30
Chinnar ...	30	4,950	27

RUBBER.—About 200 tons were offered at the Auction held on July 2, 1931. There was a fair demand and an improvement in prices. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold steadily at 15 cents until the close of the sale when 15½ cents was paid showing an advance of ¼ of a cent on last week rates. Fair and Off Quality Sheet was in good demand and showed an advance of ¼ of a cent and one cent respectively while Inferior quality Sheet was firmer and improved 1½ cents. Contract Crepe met with a good enquiry at 15 cents and, with Sheet firmed to 15½ cents at the close, showing a rise of one cent on previous rates. Off Crepe showed a similar rise and Mottled Brown sorts were about ¼ of a cent dearer than in the previous Auction. A good market ruled for all grades of Scrap Crepe. Best quality was about ¼ of a cent dearer and medium sorts about half cent up. Demand for Black and inferior earth sorts was weaker and these sold at slightly easier rates. There was only a small quantity of Scrap on offer and this realised about -/08½ cents for best.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

June 28, 1931 to July 11, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ..	0·27	0·46	0·73
2. Kalthurity.	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri ..	0·50	0·60	1·10
3. Kallar Bdg.	6·41	4·38	10·79	26. Ootacamund	2·47	0·24	2·71
4. Koney ...	...	...	...	27. Yercard ..	1·96	2·78	4·74
5. Pattanapura.	3·87	4·51	8·38	28. Mango Range	8·40	...	...
6. Kumbazha...	8·46	3·40	11·86	29. Devala ..	9·40	7·19	16·59
6a Peravanthan...	...	...	...	30. Devarshola..	7·67	2·05	9·72
6b Aneikolam...	10·87	5·93	16·80	31. CALICUT ..	8·43	4·19	12·62
7. Peermade...	...	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi ..	12·77	...	...
8. Twyford ...	...	...	...	33. Vayitri ..	20·84	7·82	28·66
9. V'periyar ...	...	16·28	...	34. Manantoddi ..	9·01	7·84	16·85
10. Kalaar ...	20·01	...	...	35. Billigiris ...	3·14	1·42	4·56
11. Chittuvurrai	1·33	0·10	1·43	36. Sidapur ..	...	...	...
12. Bodr'KANUR	...	0·60	0·60	37. Ghatted Hulia	...	...	...
13. COCHIN	7·82	4·87	12·69	38. Pollibetta ..	...	...	19·78
14. Mooply ...	10·80	5 15	15·95	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	...	...	...	40. Saklaspur ..	...	...	...
16. Mudus ...	25·59	8·73	34·32	41. Kadarmane ...	33·07	20·73	53·80
17. POLLACHI	2·70	0·37	3·07	42. Balehonnur..	7·55	13·32	20·87
18. Neill'pathy...	9·92	3·65	13·57	43. Merthisubgey.	12·59	...	...
19. Karapara ..	19·73	...	...	44. Kelagur ..	...	...	...
20. Pullengode ..	12·35	4·20	16·55	45. Durgadabettta.	...	...	14·62
21. Nilambur ...	9·46	7·35	16·81	46. MANGALORE	9·00	4·61	13·61
22. Naduvattam	16·65	4·11	20·76	47. MADRAS ...	0·51	0·51	1·02
23. Nilgiri Peak	27·85	1·95	29·80				

* 7. *Peermade.*—Rainfall on 'Stagbrook' fortnight ending 4th July, 1931 = 23·53 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 16]

August 1, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

A SHIP with which no doubt very many Planters in South India have at some time or other been intimately connected with, has just been refitted, reconditioned and renamed preparatory to undertaking what must be one of the most novel voyages embarked upon. We refer to the ex-Bibby Liner *s.s. Leicestershire* due to arrive in the Thames the first week of August, but under the new name 'British Exhibitor'.

This ship will sail about November 1 on a twelve months' cruise to South America and the West Indies, and her mission will be to promote our export trade with those countries overseas. The solution of our unemployment problem depends upon the extension of our export trade and the Company who, under the leadership of Lord Auckland, had the initiative and foresight to buy outright a ship suitable for the purpose, is to be sincerely congratulated. They have lost no time in following hot on the trail blazed by the Prince of Wales, who on his recent visit to South America caused that country to be very favourably disposed toward the buying of British goods. Owing both to that fact and also the goodwill that accrued to British Trade from the British Empire Trade Exhibition in Buenos Ayres, the 'British Exhibitor's' first cruise will be to that part of the world, and her ports of call will correspond to those visited by the Prince of Wales and Prince George on their recent mission. Space does not permit of a full account being given of the multifarious examples of ingenious devices which have been embodied in the organization and fitting out of the ship; but it is enough to say that an expert Sales Staff consisting of men with the experience and knowledge of conditions of doing business in the countries to be visited will represent the exhibitors and the chief technical and selling points of their products will be displayed in thirty different ports. There is space on board for nearly 500 separate exhibits and room for 233 representatives in first-class State rooms. It is good to

realize that British manufacturers are at last awakening to the fact that it is personal contact with foreign buyers which improves relations and helps to develop trade as is shown by the large number of important exporters who are themselves accompanying the ship on its tour, in addition to the Exhibition including representative specimens of all the chief exporting industries of Great Britain.

A BOOK on 'Malaria Control' by the Assistant Director, Malaria Survey of India, Major G. Covell, I.M.S., should prove of real interest and *Malaria control by Anti-Mosquito measures.* value to managers of tea, coffee and rubber plantations in their efforts to apply the various Anti-Mosquito measures, in the most convenient form.

A description of the various methods used which have proved of practical importance will make the book of value to the man in the field, and its price, namely Rs. 5, brings it well within the means of the average person.

ELSEWHERE we publish in this issue a statement showing the Income and Expenditure account of the Benevolent Fund for the first quarter of the year 1931-32. The subscriptions received to the *Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund.* end of June 30, total only Rs. 902-8-0, but the expenditure for the same period is over Rs. 2,600. Only three Associations have sent in subscriptions of over Rs. 100. The Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. would take this opportunity to remind all subscribers to send in their contributions as early as possible, and trusts that the Honorary Secretaries of District Associations will use their influence in collecting and remitting as much as possible.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

CHEAP RUBBER FLOORING.

Yet another promising avenue for the consumption of rubber on a big scale is being matured. Without being permitted to mention our authorities we are in a position to say that one of the events of the near future will be the production of a new type of rubber flooring at a price that will compete on level terms with popular classes of linoleum. It requires no effort of the imagination to picture what vast expansions in the consumption of rubber might follow. Up to the present rubber flooring has been a luxury confined to public buildings, entertainment houses, steamship lines, and the higher spheres of business establishments. If it can be brought within the means of the average householder, as a greatly superior alternative to the ordinary floor covering, the innovation may mark the beginning of a new demand for rubber comparable only to the growth of automobilism. This is in no way a fantastic estimate if consideration is given to the world's requirements in linoleum and similar materials. The field is truly immeasurable, but much spade work will be required to develop it. There are powerful vested interests in the furnishing trade, which will oppose tooth and nail any disturbance of settled fashions in flooring materials, and therefore it will have to be to the public that any appeal is made, and propaganda will need to be organized on wide and sustained lines, not left to individual manufacturers to popularise. Co-operative advertising has been tried, with excellent results, on other rubber commodities, but here will be a unique opportunity to benefit all sections of the rubber industry, and so we trust that all will contribute to a general campaign fund.—*Rubber Age.*

RUBBER CULTIVATION IN TRAVANCORE

The rubber cultivators of this State who are hit hard on account of the present very low price of the commodity had petitioned the Government that enhanced assessment on rubber estates may be held in abeyance and the amount of such tax recovered with arrears may either be refunded or adjusted towards the tax due from them in future. After due consideration, the Government have issued an order reducing the enhanced assessment.

Government have now been pleased to sanction the reduction until further orders of tax on rubber lands from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 in all cases in which the tax is realisable at the former rate and to make this concession applicable to the tax due in 1931 too. The L. R. and I. T. Commissioner will issue immediate instructions in the matter. The excess tax which may have been already recovered during the current year will be refunded to the parties by short payment of the tax due in the succeeding year.'—*The Hindu, 28 July.*

—————:o:—————

U. P. A. S. I. NOTES**BANGALORE CONFERENCE WEEK, AUGUST 1931****RUSSIAN FLEECE TOURNAMENT**

We are greatly obliged to Messrs. Spencer & Co. Ltd., for their kindness in presenting two Billiard cues as prizes for the Russian Fleece Tournament.

Will intending pairs of entrants please send in their names to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., in advance if possible, but at any rate put their names down on the Hotel Notice Board list before 8 p.m. Sunday, August 16.

* * *

We are indebted to the Secretary B.U.S. Club, for the following programme of events which have been arranged for the Planters' Week.

PROGRAMME FOR PLANTERS' WEEK**Time****P.M.**

Saturday, August 15th.	2.30	Races.
	9.30	Band Dance at B.U.S. Club.
Monday, , , 17th.	9.30	A 'Grand Cabaret Ball' at the Globe Theatre.
Tuesday, , , 18th.	9.30	B.A.D.C. Show at B.R.V. Theatre.
Wednesday, , , 19th.	2.30	Races.
	9.30	B.A.D.C. Show at B.R.V. Theatre.
Thursday, , , 20th.	9.30	Band Dance at B.U.S. Club.
Friday, , , 21st.	9.30	B.A.D.C. Show at B.R.V. Theatre.
Saturday, , , 22nd.	9.30	Band Dance at B.U.S. Club.

T. S. KEMMIS,

July 24, 1931. *Secretary, United Services Club.*

* * * * *

LABOUR DEPT.—PALAMCOTTAH

Subscribers are notified that the services of Mr. Noor Baig Sahib, Agent, Labour Department, Upasi, Srivaikuntam, have been dispensed with.

The name of his successor will be notified in due course.

A. G. A. DUNNING,
Superintendent, Labour Department.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the Period 1st April to 30th June 1931

Income	Amount	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	Amount	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Subscriptions received from—						
Anamalais	10 0 0			By Assistance granted—		
Central Travancore	10 0 0			Case No. 1. Widow	225 0 0	
Kanan Devans	40 0 0			2. Do,	150 0 0	
Mundakayam	7 8 0			3. Child	150 0 0	
Mysore	115 0 0			4. Education of 1 boy	423 15 0	
Nilgiri-Wynaad	380 0 0			and 2 girls	101 12 10	
Shevaroys	40 0 0			5. Invalid Planter		
South Travancore	30 0 0			6. Passage for desti-		
West Coast	30 0 0			tute Planter, wife		
Wynaad	205 0 0			and children	1,498 0 0	
Firms	25 0 0			7. Invalid Planter	67 9 8	
U.P.A.S.I.	10 0 0					2,616 5 6
To Interest received	...	...	902 8 0	By Expenses—		
To Balance being excess of Expen-	...	423 3 8		Postages	6 4 0	
diture over Income	...			Bank Charge	0 4 0	6 8 0
Total	...		1,297 1 10			
				Total	...	2,622 13 6
			2,622 13 6			

MADRAS,
July 10, 1931.

C. H. BROCK,
Secretary.

NOW IS THE TIME!

CRISIS IN THE RUBBER FOOTWEAR TRADE

THE topic for this month is unquestionably the critical position of the British rubber footwear industry created by the wholly unchecked influx of imports offered at prices lower than the home cost of production. We have dealt with the subject before in this series of articles, and in addition have cited instances of goods being retailed at prices altogether outside the sphere of British competition. The situation, however, is rapidly going from bad to worse. The lower standard of wages and longer hours of employment prevailing in competitive countries of Europe have hitherto been the most serious factors in the conflict. These handicaps have become secondary in the face of the advance of Japan to a prominent position among the exporters of rubber goods. The Orient has come permanently into line as one of the most formidable producers of popular rubber footwear. It is no palliative to say that these are of the cheap and ephemeral class—beach shoes, plimsols, sandals, etc., that are worn out in two or three weeks. The great majority of holidaymakers do not require them to last longer. They buy them for the current summer outing, and are quite satisfied to discard them with other items of the summer outfit. Sea-bathing accessories would be only useless lumber for the rest of the year. For this and other reasons, therefore, much benefit cannot be derived from the successful issue of the Board of Trade inquiry to determine the claim to have these and other types of rubber footwear brought under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

The strides made by Japan's export trade formed one of the topics discussed at the Rubber Footwear Conference reported in this issue of the *Rubber Age*. Some illuminating data are given. In five years, Japanese exports in the cheaper types of rubber shoes have increased fourfold and now occupy the leading place. This is a form of competition for which there would seem to be no remedy, for though one might hope for a closer adjustment of labour conditions in Europe, the prospect of any approximate rise in Japanese wages to the standard of the Western World is too remote for present consideration. Failing this or a change in our fiscal policy that would give genuine protection to our manufactures, there would appear to be little hope of retaining, much less expanding, the home market for the class of rubber footwear so far dealt with in this article. A somewhat ingenious solution, by the way, is offered by a Glasgow exhibition opened last month which has for its object to collect together nearly 500 articles of foreign make which sell in this country by reason of their superiority to similar home-made goods. The organisers were prompted by a conviction that the best way to improve the quality of British goods was to collect together all the commodities which trade buyers considered could be purchased more advantageously abroad. The opinion was also held that price is secondary to style and design, and that therefore the home producer has only to be given an opportunity to study the superior qualities of the imported articles to improve upon them. This argument is sound enough as applied to the classes of rubber footwear in which smartness and durability are points that matter, but we have given our reasons for believing that these merits are non-essential in the cheap lines which the Japanese lay themselves out to supply. The Japanese have an enormous market for such goods in the Far East—a market which is becoming closed to our export trade—and are thereby encouraged to extend their activities to Europe.. Now, as was said at the opening of this Glasgow exhibition,

people in this country may be genuinely disposed to buy British-made goods, but patriotism is strained if all the inducements to purchase are afforded by the foreigner.

We are not indulging in any counsel of despair, however, in taking the view that nothing short of countervailing import duties can enable the home manufacturer to hold his own with the Asiatic in those lines of rubber footwear wherein price is the deciding factor. There are fortunately many types of rubber boots and shoes which require to possess other qualities than mere cheapness. Where style, finish and durability are requisites, there is no doubt that British goods can hold their own in any market, and it is therefore in these directions that industrial expansion must be sought rather than in maintaining an unequal struggle with labour conditions which cannot be paralleled in this country. The scope for extending the use of rubber footwear is very large indeed. In England especially the habit of protecting the feet from cold and dampness is curiously neglected and calls for vigorous and systematic propaganda if any general change is to be effected. What can be done by well-organized publicity was shown by the results of the two campaigns to popularize rubber wellingtons, and the enforced suspension of these efforts due to financial reasons was nothing short of a calamity. Rubber footwear is second to tyres as the chief source of consumption, and hence it is deserving of Government support as a subject of imperial importance as well as being an immediate issue in assisting several of our most distressed industries. A good precedent has been set by the assistance given to the Lancashire rubber footwear industry. It would be invidious to leave it at that!—*'Rubber Age'* dated July 1931.

COFFEE

COFFEE offered in auction during the week totalled 8,002 bags. This figure included 2,907 bags of Costa Rica, 688 bags East Indian and 3,400 bags of African, of which Kenya contributed 2,494 bags of the latter figure.

Costa Ricas have principally consisted of the London cleaned variety. The demand for the finer grades remains steady, but supplies of the medium qualities are still in excess of the demand, and consequently, the market continues dull and uninteresting.

The total quantity of Costa Rica offered in auctions during the present season now amounts to about 161,000 bags, against about 146,000 bags for the corresponding period last year.

East Indians, almost without exception, showed a decline in quality, and little demand was forthcoming.

There has only been a slight alteration in the position of Africans, those offered being nearly all of the common descriptions. Other grades are unchanged and present nothing of outstanding interest.

The landings in London last week showed a comparative decrease of 27 tons, while the deliveries were 24 tons less than those of the previous year, and the stock, which had decreased for the week 260 tons, showed a larger relative deficiency of 3,129 tons.—*The Produce Markets Review of June 27, 1931.*

A TALE OF T. C. P.

I had a fall the other day,
 I hit my foot upon a stone.
 It fairly took my breath away ;
 It cut my leg right to the bone.
 I limped along : it hurt like h-h,
 I found the Doctor, Mr. Pill.
 I said ' I am not feeling well,
 ' In other words I'm feeling ill '.

' My leg is bleeding ; can you fix it ? '.
 ' Yes ' he said ; ' Just half a minute,
 ' I've some stuff ; I'll quickly mix it.
 ' And I'll tell you what is in it.
 ' Here's the jar, and as a rule
 ' I keep it on the window-sill
 ' It's TRICHLOROPHENYLMETHYLIODOSALICYL '.

He bound it up : I went away.
 Within a week my leg was cured
 When I went back the other day
 I found the Doctor in a ward.
 He said ' I'm glad you've come at last
 For I have got for you a bill
 For TRICHLOROPHENYLMETHYLIODOSALICYL '.

I said ' That's good : I've brought enough
 ' Of cash with me to fully pay it.
 ' What do you call the blooming stuff ?
 ' I only wish that I could say it '.
 He said ' Just try—now take a breath
 ' And you'll succeed—no doubt you will
 ' Say " TRICHLOROPHENYLMETHYLIODOSALICYL " '.

When Jack and Jill went up the hill
 To fetch a pail of drinking water
 Jack fell down and broke his crown
 And Jill came tumbling shortly after.
 Jack promptly to the Doctor went.
 The Doctor quickly cured his ill
 With TRICHLOROPHENYLMETHYLIODOSALICYL .

To Bangalore one day I went
 And bought a sort of kind of tike.
 Though not an ' Eton-Christchurch ' dog,
 The sort of hound I really like.
 The problem was to find a name.
 The name, at last, I gave my pup
 Was ' TRICHLOROPHENYLMETHYLIODO... '—Oh ! Shut up !

H. R. BOWLING.

**PLANTING PRODUCE
IN THE
LONDON MARKET**

April—June, 1931

Messrs. Leslie and Anderson send us the following very interesting review dated June 30, 1931 of the London Market for Planting Produce during the second quarter of the Current year :—

COFFEE

Since writing our March Review the market has not been without interesting features unusual at this period of the season.

During the Easter Recess prices were inclined to harden and towards the close of April Home Trade buyers seemed to be scrambling for Indian and Costa Rica coffees as if there were not sufficient to go round, resulting in quotations for medium to good descriptions marking an advance of 20/- to 10/- per cwt. With the demand satisfied and quality of the later supplies showing some falling off, values have eased from the peak reached early in May.

It should be borne in mind that the advance in values here began when the price of Brazil coffee (Superior Santos) had declined to about the lowest quotation during the quarter. This seemed to imply a shortage of Mild coffees or an increased predilection on the part of consumers for these coffees at the expense of Brazils. If so, it seems a happy augury for the future for planters in India and East Africa.

Propaganda in favour of coffee drinking may to some extent have increased our Home consumption, though we doubt if it has made much headway among the less well-to-do, owing to the difficulty of making a really palatable cup of coffee, apart from the additional cost. Seeing the figures of consumption of tea also show an increase, it is probable that the increased consumption is at the expense of the more potent beverages?

We observed in our March Review that the figures of Home Consumption and Re-Exports made a favourable showing compared with 1930, and this satisfactory feature has been maintained. It will be noticed from the figures below that imports into London of all descriptions have been slightly less than last season, and we invite inspection of the statistical position as regards consumption, re-exports and stocks, as indicating some guide for values next season.

The world's deliveries for the 11 months ending June 1, 1931, amounted to 22,928,000 bags, indicating that the total for the crop year will exceed all previous records and will probably run close to 25 million bags. Arrivals of Milds during 11 months increased 299,000 bags reaching a total of 7,784,000 bags, against 7,485,000 bags last year. On the other hand, Brazil exported 1,934,400 bags more than during the same months of the previous season.

EAST INDIAS.—Contrary to the experience of most seasons, we have seen prices at Auctions after Easter on a higher basis than many of the

March sales, and if quality had been maintained to the end we should have closed the campaign on a very satisfactory level, but as was to be expected prices of the later shipments suffered owing to the falling off in quality.

The demand for these coffees from the Continent has continued poor throughout, our direct sales during the past quarter being negligible, though probably a fair quantity has filtered through the hands of dealers.

We have been pleased to hear that with the blossom showers falling late in March and early April, prospects for next crop were reported all round as 'good', but later advices tell of heavy rains and in some areas serious loss of crop has occurred; we hope this has not been universal.

COSTA RICAS.—Planters, we think, must have experienced a very profitable season, for their coffees have maintained a high average price during the whole selling period, and though a fair quantity has been withdrawn at the later Auctions, we have little doubt these coffees will find buyers at satisfactory prices with a little patience. Imports for 1931 to date are 194,316 bags.

EAST AFRICAS.—There is little fresh news to report in regard to these coffees. They have sold steadily at fair prices so long as quality was maintained, but there have been few lots during this quarter that have realized over 100/- per cwt. for A's. The demand for export to Northern Pacific Ports has not been so much in evidence and recent offerings have on the whole been unattractive. We are informed the prospects for next crop are fair.

BUKOBAS.—The advance in values of Brazils, referred to below, has entirely altered the situation and prospects for these coffees since we wrote our last review, resulting in a fair enquiry with a steady business passing. In the early weeks of the advance it was believed that the rise in Brazils would only be temporary until the 'short' interest in the United States had covered their sales for the near positions, and even to-day buyers in America still show little interest, so the bulk of the business put through since early in May has been for Continental account. If Brazil prices can be maintained, and strenuous efforts are being made to this end, we shall hope for a continuance of the present activity.

BRAZILS.—It was uncertain during the early period of the quarter what line the Federal Government was about to take in their endeavour to enhance the value of their coffee. At first it was reported that a 20 per cent. levy in kind would be imposed on planters, but early in May a 10/- per bag export duty was substituted for the earlier proposal, with the result that quotations for Superior Santos and Rio No. 7, indeed all shipping grades, were promptly advanced about 8/- per cwt. The proceeds of this tax are, for the most part, to be devoted to purchases of low grade descriptions for destruction, and this programme is being carried out, for it is reported about 400,000 bags of coffee have already been burned or taken out to sea and thrown overboard.

It should be stated that this new tax is in addition to those already existing and will mean that total taxes (the transport tax of one milreis gold, the 3/- tax, 5 francs tax, export tax, and the new 10/- tax) will signify an onus, at present rate of exchange, of about \$55,000 per bag of 60 kilos.

Superior Santos is to-day quoted at 45/6 per cwt. c. & f., from which freight as well as transport to seaboard falls to be deducted—after paying these export levies of about 18/- per bag, the return to the planter can hardly exceed 30/- per bag, to cover cost of labour, preparation, cost of bags, interest on advances, etc., and of course his crop is far from being all Superior, but even at this low net sale price it is computed the planter can make a profit of 5/- per cwt., so that on large estates the crop is still a paying one.

The Federal Government is also credited with efforts to improve their exchange, which has recently shown a recovery of about $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to nearly 4d. per milreis. With economies in administration and the important decline in the figures of imports, the financial position of Brazil has undoubtedly improved since the beginning of the year.

We quote spot prices in London and give the statistical position here at date below :—

EAST INDIA, Good to fine		..	100/- @ 145/	per cwt.
" " Low to Medium		..	65/- @ 80/	" "
COSTA RICA, Good to Fine		..	105/- @ 155/-	" "
" " Low to Medium		..	60/- @ 90/-	" "
KENYA, " Good to Fine		..	80/- @ 130/-	" "
" " Low to Medium		..	25/- @ 65/-	" "
BUKOBA, Plantation, C.F.I. July-Aug.			36/6	" "
Native " do.			29/6	" "
JAVA ROBUSTA, F.A.Q., C.F.I. do.			48/-	" "
JAVA PALAM BANG, F.A.Q., C.F.I. do.			32/-	" "
SANTOS SUPERIOR, C. & F.		..	45/6	" "
RIO No. 7, C. & F.		..	36/-	" "

	Landed		Home Con.		Export		Stock		
	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1929
COFFEE—									
British West India .. tons	34	6	40	20	12	1	86	16	26
British East India ..	2,124	4,045	816	805	595	967	1,484	2,667	949
Total British Plantation..	2,158	4,051	856	825	607	968	1,570	2,683	975
Mocha ..	497	569	378	359	52	72	535	519	567
Foreign East India ..	127	108	115	156	11	19	172	176	142
Brazil ..	192	216	181	127	37	83	161	110	429
Colombian ..	1,110	569	485	490	325	368	462	525	1,150
Costa Rica ..	12,952	14,062	5,458	5,214	3,155	4,800	6,120	6,539	6,639
Guatemala, &c..	1,716	949	774	239	396	211	1,086	619	506
African ..	10,567	11,049	4,553	4,343	4,963	2,352	4,442	6,314	3,185
Total Foreign..	27,161	27,549	11,944	10,928	8,939	7,905	12,978	14,802	12,618
Grand Total ...	29,319	31,600	12,809	11,753	9,546	8,873	14,548	17,485	13,593

TEA

The market for South Indians developed a weak tone during June, due in some part to a decline in the quality, but also under the influence of the heavy catalogues of Ceylon teas. Offerings of these teas in Public Sales have been exceptionally large, owing, we assume, to a considerable number of invoices usually sold on the Colombo Market for Australia, etc., having been shipped to London. Northern Indian offerings have been smaller, and quality generally has been uninteresting, while from Ceylon there has lately been a gradual deterioration each week; consequently even the best liquoring kinds have declined in value. Clean Common Indian B.P.S. is now 4½d. per lb. compared with 6½d. per lb. at the end of March; the best enquiry has recently been centred on common kinds, a reduction of 2d. per lb. in retail prices having had a stimulating effect to some extent.

Prospects for the future are far from encouraging, and we can only repeat what we wrote in our last review 'it is to be hoped that this year's crops will be of a reasonable size, otherwise Stocks will again increase, and there will be little hope of a recovery in prices'.

The Northern Indian crop to the end of May 1931 is about the same size as it was last year, viz. 32 million lbs.

Deliveries from London Warehouses are satisfactory and from 1st January to end of May 1931 shew an increase of 14½ million lbs. over the corresponding period of 1930; lately, there has been a considerable falling off, but this is probably due to the exceptionally heavy clearances before the Budget in anticipation of a Duty, which, however, was not re-imposed.

London Stocks at the end of May were 9½ million lbs. less than last year, the figures being 205½ against 215 million lbs.

RUBBER

The forebodings expressed in our circular for March unfortunately proved to be correct and rubber shortly afterwards sold down to the record low level of 2½d. per lb. Later some recovery occurred and prices have remained for the most part round about 3d. per lb. During the last few days, however, owing to the American proposal for a moratorium of War Debts the market has improved slightly and 3½d. is quoted for Ribbed Smoked Sheets on the spot.

As regards the statistical position, consumption is shewing a seasonable increase but still remains below outputs, which continue at high levels, although in most cases they are below last year's figures.

Conversations on the question of Restriction are still proceeding in Holland, but the rubber market is sceptical as to the outcome of these and has little faith in any form of Restriction being introduced.

It would appear as though rubber will continue in its present lethargic condition for some time, and any substantial movement in price is unlikely

We quote :—

PLANTATION SMOKED SHEETS	Spot	... 3½d. per lb.
--------------------------	------	------------------

Do	July/Sept.	... 3½d. "
----	------------	------------

Do	Oct./Dec.	... 3½d. "
----	-----------	------------

LONDON STOCK 82,441 Tons—same date last year	79,699 Tons.
--	--------------

LIVERPOOL STOCK 54,036 Tons	... 27,493 "
-----------------------------	--------------

'TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA.

Only 12,508 packages were offered in auction on Thursday. Very little tea was taken out. The market was firm and advances of a farthing per lb. for lower grade were fairly general.

—The Produce Markets Review.

June 27, 1931.

DISTRICT NOTES

NELLIAMPATHIES

Minutes of the First General Meeting of the Nelliampathy Planters' Association
held at Seetagundy Bungalow on Monday, July 13, 1931.

Present :

E. G. Cameron, Esq. (*Chairman*), the Managers, Palagapandy and Karapara Estates, A. Hall, Esq. (*by Proxy*), P. W. Davis, Esq. (*Honorary Secretary*). The notices calling the meeting were read.

Minutes.—The minutes of the last General Meeting and of the Committee meeting held on April 6, were read and confirmed.

Accounts.—The accounts for the year ending March 31, 1928, were read and confirmed after the Secretary had explained the necessity for the fresh audit by Mr. Thampan. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to lodge originals of all Balance Sheets and Expenditure Accounts with the Bank for safe custody.

H. Waddington, Esq.—Proposed by Mr. Davis and seconded by the Manager, Palagapandy : 'This Association records its hearty appreciation of Mr. Waddington's invaluable services to the Planting community. It tendered its best wishes for their prosperity in their retirement to Mr. and Mrs. Waddington.'

Carried unanimously.

Labour.—(1) Proposed by Mr. Hall : 'That the Anamallais and Wynaad P.A.'s be approached with the suggestion that Maistries' commission be limited to 10 per cent.'

There being no support, the motion was *withdrawn*.

(2) Proposed by Mr. Cameron : 'That a meeting of representatives of all interests in the District be called to discuss the question of reducing labour rates.'

Seconded by the Manager, Karapara, and *carried*.

Ghat Road.—(1) Proposed by Mr. Davis : 'This Association views with regret the very slow progress made during the last six months on the Nelliampathy Ghat Road.'

(2) *Nadghani-Polyampara section* —After considerable discussion the Chairman proposed that 'The Association requests members to refer this

matter to their Proprietors; it also suggests that Proprietors' views on proportions payable Tea, Coffee and Cardamoms should be carefully ascertained'.

Seconded by Mr. Hall and carried.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate the Dewan's reply to the Association's letter dated July 7, as the matter was considered urgent by the meeting.

Ghat Road tolls.—Proposed by Mr. Davis: 'As the collection of Revenue from roads by means of tolls entails considerable loss to taxpayer and Government, that the Honorary Secretary be instructed to approach the Dewan with a view to arranging for collection of Revenue direct from Estates.'

After considerable discussion the meeting decided that a reasonable basis of collection could probably be evolved by discussion between all concerned and the motion which was seconded by Mr. E. G. Cameron, was carried 'nem con'.

Road Committees —

(a) *Main and District Roads.*—The Committee reported progress.

(b) *Nemmani-Kollengode.*—The Committee reported that Government declined to afford any assistance. The road showed no progress and would probably deteriorate henceforth.

Cochin State Road Board.—It was noted that Mr. P. W. Davis had been elected member of this Board with Mr. M. S. Calderwood member-in-waiting. Relevant matters should be communicated to Mr. Davis for appropriate action.

Cochin Legislative Council.—Mr. Barton Wright's election was recorded with satisfaction. The Secretary was instructed to request Mr. Barton Wright to furnish the Association with details of all future references in Council to the following matters :—

Cochin Harbour; Roads; Railways; Planting; Planting Labour; Factory Legislation.

Where possible, the Association would like to have the opportunity of giving Mr. Barton Wright its opinion on any legislation contemplated affecting these matters.

Quit-rent in Cochin Nelliimpathies—The Association noted with pleasure that Government had accepted the Association's scale of Quit-rents as put forward by Deputation last November. It was further glad to note that the Association's representations against any clause stipulating that any percentage of land should be opened periodically, have been accepted by Government, and that no such clauses would be inserted in Lease Deeds hereafter.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate copies of Dewan's proceedings, reference Quit-rents and Leases.

Labour Department, U.P.A.S.I.—The Secretary U.P.A.S.I.'s letter dated June 8, was read and recorded. The Secretary was instructed to circulate copies of this letter to all members.

U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting.—(a) The preliminary agenda was considered. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward resolutions under 'Roads' and 'Coffee'.

(b) Proposed by Mr. Cameron: 'Mr. Davis be asked to represent the Association at Bangalore.'

Seconded by Mr. Hall, and carried.

Budget and General Committee Meeting, U.P.A.S.I.—Mr. E. G. Cameron proposed and Mr. Hall seconded: 'This Association records its hearty appreciation of Mr. H. S. Cameron's kindness in representing the Association at these Meetings.'

Carried unanimously.

The Meeting then closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Cameron for the use of their Bungalow.

P. WELLINGER DAVIS,
Honorary Secretary.

E. G. CAMERON,
Chairman.

WYNAAD

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting held at Meppadi Club at 3 p.m.
on July 15, 1931.

Present :

Messrs. R. N. W. Jodrell (*Chairman*), B. M. Behr, E. A. Cowdrey, E. E. Eyre, C. E. A. Ewart, W. R. Grove, J. A. Gwynne, A. M. Haigh, R. W. M. Hay, W. A. Holmes, T. E. Howe, H. S. Lake, W. A. L. Marr, P. A. Naylor, E. R. Peachey, F. Price, C. A. Rendle, R. P. N. Swayne and I. W. Finlayson (*Hon. Secretary*).

Visitor :

Mr. B. St. J. Boultbee.

1. The notice calling the meeting was read.
2. (a) The minutes of the last General Meeting held on May 27, 1931, were taken as read and confirmed.
- (b) The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on June 17, 1931, were read and confirmed.

3. *U.P.A.S.I. Labour Rule XIV.*

The Hon. Secretary explained that he had been requested to place this item on the Agenda by Mr. Hay, with a view to having the amendment of Rule 14 brought up at the Annual Meeting at Bangalore. As resolutions for the Annual Meeting had to reach the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I. by July 16, the Hon. Secretary read a copy of his letter dated July 9, to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., stating that the following resolution would be proposed:—

'That Rule 14 of the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Rules be amended so as to exclude from the definition of a Planting District any such District where the estates, situated therein, have ceased to function in employing their usual labour force'.

After some discussion the Chairman asked the Meeting to confirm the Hon. Secretary's action and this was done.

It was suggested that the Hon. Secretary write to the West Coast P.A. and ask that permission be granted to members of this Association to employ labour from the area in Malabar proscribed under Rule 14.

4. Meppadi Sanitation.—

The report of the Sub-Committee appointed to go into this question was read.

After discussion the general consensus of opinion was that in the present depressed state of the tea and other produce markets it was impossible for the industry to bear any portion of the expenditure proposed by the Malabar District Board.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the members of the Sub-Committee. *Carried* nem. con.

5. Jubilee Shooting Range.—

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from the Revenue Inspector, Kalpetta, regarding the testing of firearms on the Jubilee Shooting Range by a local blacksmith. The Hon. Secretary's letter to the Military Authorities and their reply were also read.

Some discussions followed and the Hon. Secretary was finally instructed to reply to the Revenue Inspector to the effect that this Association objects to the use of the Range by the applicant and that further enquiries into the matter would be made.

Proposed by Mr. Naylor and seconded by Mr. Behr:

'That the matter be referred to the District Magistrate for an enquiry to be made'. *Passed* nem. con.

6. Appointment of Delegates to Annual Meeting at Bangalore.

Mr. Behr proposed that the Chairman and Hon. Secretary be appointed as delegates. Mr. Naylor seconded the proposal.

Carried nem. con.

7. Correspondence and other competent Business.—

The Hon. Secretary gave a precis of correspondence received and answered.

The following publications were placed on the table:—

South Indian Association. Proceedings of the annual meeting.

Indian Tea Cess Committee. Proceedings of the half-yearly meeting.

Bulletin 14, 15 and 16 of the Department of Agriculture, Mysore.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting then terminated.

R. N. W. JODRELL,

Chairman.

I. W. FINLAYSON,

Hon. Secretary.

mysore

**The Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Mysore Planters' Association
(Incorporated), held at the Kadur Club, Chickmagalur, at 10-30 a.m.
on Thursday, July 16, 1931.**

Present :

Messrs. E. W. Fowke (*Chairman*), G. Q. Archard, E. H. Beadnell, H. Browne, S. H. Dennis, J. E. Ferrers, L. Garrett, L. P. Kent, S. L. Mathias, F. D. Meppen, A. Middleton, L. Newcome, M. Gilbart Smith, W. G. Stonehouse, H. Watson and C. C. Couchman (*Secretary*).

The Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting.

Before proceeding with the business of the Meeting, the Chairman referred to the well-merited C.I.E. recently awarded to Dr. Leslie Coleman, and suggested the Secretary be requested to convey the congratulations of the Association to him.

Carried with applause.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

Report of the Executive Committee for the period April 1, 1931, to June 30, 1931.

Meetings.—One General Meeting has been held.

References.—Sixteen references were made to the Committee, all of which have been dealt with.

Upset Price of Lands.—In view of the fact that the Government of Mysore has, as a temporary measure, reduced the Upset Price of Lands to Rs. 20 per acre, and also given assurances regarding certain other matters, all representation under this heading has been dropped.

Roads.—The closing of the Argumby Ghat for repairs has been brought to the notice of the Chief Engineer in Mysore. It was pointed out that the Charmady Ghat is closed for repairs, and that the Kemphally Ghat is usually closed in the monsoon by a river, and that the closing of the Argumby Ghat completely cuts off Mysore from S. Kanara areas. The Chief Engineer is looking into the matter.

The Chief Engineer was requested to look into the road contract arrangements of the Hassan District, and, if possible, to re-introduce the lump sum contract arrangement which has always worked well in the past. The notice of this officer was brought to the intention of the Assistant Engineer, Saklaspur, to cease cleaning all side drains, and cutting back ingrowing jungle and to divert the money saved there from the repairs to culverts. The matter is being investigated.

Mr. Waddington's Pension.—Your Committee recorded the opinion of this Association in favour of the amendment suggested by Messrs. King & Partridge, whereby Mr. Waddington's pension should be secured by a charge on the immovable properties of the Association.

Curing Charges.—Curers were requested to make a substantial reduction in Curing Charges in view of the general depression and the cheapened cost of living. The interests concerned are Meeting and will advise the Association of the results of their deliberations in due course.

Octroi Duty on Petrol—Chickmagalur.—The notice of the Deputy Commissioner, Kadur District, has been brought to the imposition of Octroi Duty on Petrol brought through the Town whilst en route to its destination some fifty miles away. It has been reasoned that as petrol is allowed to pass through a Municipality by train without the imposition of Octroi Duty, it ought to be allowed through in lorries, or carts when supported with documentary evidence as to its destination.

(Sd.) L. GARRETT,
Member, N. Mysore.

(Sd.) E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

Accounts.—The Chairman explained to the Meeting that the Auditors had suggested a new form of Annual Account and asked the opinion of the Association on the point. After a slight discussion it was decided that the

Secretary be instructed to circulate copies of the new form to all Members, and that the matter be deferred to the next Meeting.

Election of Auditors, 1931-32.—Messrs. Fraser & Ross were re-elected for the period 1931-32.

Coffee Growers' Association.—The payment of expenses in connection with the proposed Coffee Growers' Association and Better Marketing Scheme was discussed. It was decided to pay half these charges, the Coorg Association paying the balance, and that the payment be a temporary measure. All such payments to be recovered from the Coffee Growers' Association after flotation.

The Meeting then went into Committee.

Election of Member—Kadur District Board.—The matter being put to the vote, Mr. Middleton was elected, and agreed to serve.

RESOLUTION FOR THE U.P.A.S.I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Coffee.—The following resolution, proposed from the Chair, was put to the Meeting :—

' That this Association thanks the Imperial Government for its action in having prohibited the importation of raw Coffee from places outside India.'

Carried Unanimously.

Tea.—The Tea position was examined, and the following resolution, proposed by Mr. S. L. Mathias and seconded by Mr. H. Browne, was put to the Meeting as a means of improving matters :—

' That this Association requests the Government of India to impose an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent on all Tea imported into India.'

Carried.

Election of a Delegate to the U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting vice Mr. Hill, resigned.—The voting was in favour of Mr. Fowke, who agreed to act.

Date of Next Meeting.—The next meeting was fixed for August 2, 1931.

With a vote of thanks to the President and Members of the Kadur Club for the use of the room, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

C. C. COUCHMAN,
Secretary.

E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

WEST COAST

Minutes of the Nineteenth Annual General Meeting of the West Coast Planters' Association, held at the Moeby Valley Club, at 2-30 p.m.
on Saturday, July 18, 1931.

Members Present:

Messrs. J. T. Murray (*Chairman*), B. St. Maur Hill, E. J. Thom, M. S. Calderwood, G. D. Olivier, H. J. Walmsley, T. W. H. Fitchett and W. F. Campbell (*Honorary Secretary*).

Honorary Members.—Messrs. W. M. Milne, C. Kershaw, J. G. Mitchell

1. *Minutes of last Meeting.*—Proposed from the Chair that the minutes be taken as read.

2. *Chairman's Report.*—Gentlemen,—it is customary for the Chairman to say a few words at the Annual General Meeting.

I need not dwell on the rubber slump which is so apparent to all of us and there seems little or no hope of the British and Dutch Authorities ever coming to an agreement but we look to the Hoover Moratorium to improve the world conditions, and I have no doubt rubber will participate by an increase in consumption and a better price for our product.

It was disappointing to us to have our schemes for reducing U.P.A.S.I. Expenditure turned down but we are thankful something has been accomplished, and indebted to those who have worked so hard to that end.

The attendance at the Meetings held in Calicut have been so disappointing the rule whereby alternate Meetings are held there has been allowed to lapse.

The amount of correspondence which has passed through the Secretary's hands has been much greater than usual and we are much indebted to him for the efficient manner in which he has carried out his duties.

I now place my resignation in your hands.

3. *Honorary Secretary's Report.*—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I have the honour to submit my report on the business of the Association for the year ending March 31, 1931.

Meetings.—Four Meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 10.

Acreage.—The subscribing acreage has remained the same as last year at 18,684-79 acres.

Eighteen Estates subscribed to the Association and notice of resignation has been received from every Estate which will take effect from March 31, 1932, with the exception of Pullangode Estate which placed its resignation direct with the U.P.A.S.I. in the previous year and has ceased to belong to the Association from March 1931.

Personal Members now number 20 compared with 22 for last year and Honorary Members 6.

S.I.P.B. Fund.—5 Estates and 12 Members subscribed to this Fund, the amount collected being Rs. 295. The Association subscribed a further Rs. 100 bringing the total to Rs. 395 compared with last year's subscriptions of Rs. 425.

Accounts.—The audited accounts which have been in your hands some time now, show an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 39-15-?. The Typewriter has been depreciated by 50 per cent as the machine was standing at a much higher figure than it could ever realize.

I now place my resignation in your hands.

4. *Accounts.*—Proposed by Mr. St. Maur Hill and seconded by Mr. Walmsley that the accounts be passed.—*Carried unanimously.*

Subscription.—Proposed from the Chair that the subscription to the West Coast Planters' Association for 1931-2 be levied at the rate of one pie per acre.—*Carried unanimously.*

5. *Rubber Mycological Station.*—(a) The Committee Member on the Rubber Advisory Committee gave a brief report on the workings of the Committee.

In Committee.

(b) The question of the future of the Mycological Station was fully discussed and members expressed the opinion that as long as the Rubber slump continued, they could not afford to contribute to the upkeep of same on the present lines and the following resolution proposed from the Chair was carried unanimously :—

' This Association is of opinion that the funds will not be forthcoming to maintain the Mycological Station on the present lines and is in favour of Mr. Taylor's services being terminated under the terms of his agreement, and that the Station be kept open on a more economical basis.'

(c) The R.A.C. Committee Member brought forward the opinion of the Mundakayam Planters' Association that their Honorary Secretary be Secretary of the R.A.C. to which the Meeting was opposed and the following resolution was passed unanimously :—

' This Association is of opinion that the appointment of a Secretary to the Rubber Advisory Committee be left in the hands of that Committee.'

In open Meeting.

6. U.P.A.S.I.—(a) *Accounts.*—Mr. Calderwood asked the Rubber Executive Committee Member if he could inform the Meeting why—

(1) The Benevolent Fund, Provident Fund and Sports Fund Accounts were still included in the Balance Sheet after the remarks passed at the last Annual General Meeting—*vide* Page 150, 1930 Book of Proceedings.

(2) If it had not been decided that Departmental Accounts should be kept separate and annual balances carried forward, there is no information in the Balance Sheet as to these balances.

(3) Why the Assets of the Provident Fund exceed the liabilities by Rs. 22-14-10.

In reply, Mr. Walmesley, Rubber Member of the Executive Committee, stated that no draft copy of the accounts had been submitted to him, and that he had first seen these accounts, already passed and signed as now before the Meeting, on July 16. He further stated that to the best of his recollection it had been agreed to remove the accounts of the Benevolent Fund, the Provident Fund and the Sports Fund from the Balance Sheet of the Association and had no information why this had not been done.

The following resolution proposed from the Chair was carried unanimously :—

' This Association disapproves of the manner in which the U.P.A.S.I. Accounts have been drawn up and are of opinion that the Balance Sheet should be re-drafted in accordance with the resolutions passed at the last Annual General Meeting and submitted to District Associations before the accounts are passed at the Annual General Meeting at Bangalore.'

Letters were read from the Anamalai Planters' Association and the resolutions contained therein were discussed and the following amendments passed unanimously :—

Proposed by Mr. Walmesley and seconded by Mr. Fitchett :

(1) For 'Labour Department' read 'All Departments' in the resolution concerning the Labour Department.

(2) U.P.A.S.I. Staff :—'That no member of the U.P.A.S.I. staff, on retirement, shall be eligible for pension or any special gratuity over and above the amount at his credit in the Provident Fund'.

(3) The Meeting was in favour of the item which the Anamallai Planters' Association wish to have discussed under No. 7 of the U.P.A.S.I. preliminary Agenda.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to send copies to the U.P.A.S.I. and all District Associations.

7. *Tappers' Rates*.—It was agreed to continue present rates and any one wishing to increase same to give six months' notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary.

8. *Delegates' Report*.—Mr. Walmsley's report on the General Committee Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. held on April 20, having already been circulated, was laid on the table.

9. *Roads and Communications. Cochin Road Board*.—Our representative was advised of certain road matters which required attention.

10. *Correspondence*.—Was laid on the table.

11. *Election of Office Bearers*.—The following were elected :—

Chairman—Mr. J. T. Murray

Honorary Secretary—Mr. W. F. Campbell

Committee Members—Messrs. B. St. Maur Hill, T. W. H. Fitchett, R. Lescher, E. J. Thom.

Delegate to the U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting—
Mr. H. J. Walmsley.

Rubber Advisory Committee Member—Mr. B. St. Maur Hill.
Auditor—Mr. K. K. Thampan.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Out-going Officials for their work for the past year.

12. *Political Department*.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the U. P. A. S. I. and obtain information regarding this Department.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Mooply Valley Club for the use of the room, the Meeting terminated.

W. F. CAMPBELL,
Honorary Secretary.

J. T. MURRAY,
Chairman.

COORG

**Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Coorg Planters' Association
held in the Bamboo Club, Pollibetta, on Monday, July 20, 1931, at 11 a.m.**

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), P. G. Tipping, A. L. Alexander, W. A. F. Bracken, S. P. St. C. Raymond, C. Raitt, D. J. Duncan, W. R. Wright, J. S. H. Morgan, G. A. Tippetts-Aylmer, E. C. H. Morgan, J. L. Smyth, J. H. Sprott, I. Bull, C. L. J. Humphreys, H. B. Babington, H. J. Cheesley, R. B. Cunningham, J. F. Mackintosh, R. P. W. Potter, G. Scotland, Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland, Major H. S. Mullins, Major D. N. Pitcairn and A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitors :

Messrs. C. S. Iron, R. E. L. Luard, D. F. Mursell, E. N. Whittaker, E. W. Duncan, H. D. Parson-Smith, H. G. Hicks, I.F.S., Chief Forest Officer, Coorg, and W. W. Mayne, U.P.A.S.I. Coffee Scientific Officer.

Read notice convening the meeting.

Before opening the meeting, the Chairman referred to the death of Mr. R. O. Hamilton who for many years had been a member of the Planting Community in Coorg, and a vote of condolence was passed.

The minutes of last meeting, having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, were taken as read and confirmed.

Articles of Association, Rules and Balloting Rules.—Before putting the resolution to the meeting, the Chairman pointed out that in the proposed amendment to Article No. 8(a), the substitution should read 'end of the U.P.A.S.I. financial year.' The following resolutions were then proposed from the Chair:—

1. 'That this Association adopts the proposed amendments and alterations to the Articles of Association and Rules as recommended by the Sub-Committee in their circulated Reports of June 18, 1931, subject to technical approval by Messrs King & Partridge of Madras.'

2. 'That this Association also accepts and approves of the new form of Ballot Paper, to be used in voting for Office Bearers, and adopts the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee with regard to the Rules for Balloting.'

Carried unanimously.

Labour Department Rules.—The proposed amendments as circulated by the Secretary U.P.A.S.I., were considered and the meeting expressed their approval.

Resolution for U.P.S.A.I. Annual Meeting.—The Chairman after addressing the meeting, explained that the following resolution was proposed by the Committee:—

'That this Association approves of the following resolution being proposed at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting:

That this Association shall urge upon the European Association the immediate necessity of sending a deputation to the Viceroy, to make the following representations:—

1. That the European Community views, with amazement, the apparent indifference displayed by the Government of India to the inflammatory and seditious speeches, which are being delivered throughout the country by Extremists.

2. That the European Community emphasizes the responsibility of the Government for all safeguards necessary to protect its business and social interests.

3. That the European Community is prepared to resist any discriminatory action or legislation taken or enacted against it as such.'

Carried unanimously.

Instructions to Delegates.—The preliminary list of proposed resolutions to be put forward by other District Associations was examined, and the Delegates were duly instructed as to the views of the meeting.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the Delegates should be given a free hand, so that they might act in the best interests of the Association.

Election of Auditor.—Proposed by the Chairman that the present Auditor, Mr. K. V. Gopalaiyer, B.A., G.D.A., of Coimbatore, be re-elected.
Carried.

Coorg Retrenchment Committee.—The meeting were of the opinion that one new source of revenue in the province could be realized by levying a poll-tax on cattle.

Correspondence.—Read letters from Bamboo, Belur and North Coorg Clubs regarding the mutual arrangement agreed to with regard to subscriptions of members when attending Association meetings at these Clubs.

Madras Planters' Constituency.—Read letter No. 2484 from the Secretary U.P.A.S.I.—The notice of election was laid on the table.

Telegraph Wires.—Read reply from the Post Master General re improvements to telegraph wires on Somwarpet-Fraserpet Road.

Other Business.—The Honorary Secretary read out the tour programme of the Coffee Scientific Officer.

At the suggestion of Mr. J. H. Sprott the meeting requested the Committee—(1) to examine the Coorg Labour Rules, (2) to revise cart rates to and from the Coast.

At the request of Mr. I. Bull, the Honorary Secretary was instructed to inquire from the District Magistrate of Coorg whether pro-notes could be made payable jointly and severally to 'The Manager of Estate or his agent Maistry' inasmuch as the Makers can be made liable jointly and severally.

The Chairman referred members to Rule 6 (ii) para 2 of the UPASI Articles of Association, and requested members to remember that the District Association was liable to pay subscriptions to the UPASI on any increased planted acreage as from the commencement of its next subsequent financial year.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at the Belur Club, Somwarpet.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair, and to the President and members of the Bamboo Club for the use of their room.

(Sd.) A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

ANAMALLAIS

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held at the Anamallai Club on Tuesday, July 21, 1931, at 3 p.m.

Present.

Messrs. E. Johnson (*Chairman*), A. C. Cotton, J. H. Ireland-Jones, J. Hatton Robinson, W. H. Martin, H. Gerry, G. B. Reade, O. M. Hetherington, G. A. LeMesurier, B. D. Darkin and C. F. Clark (*Honorary Secretary*).

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held on June 24, 1931, having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed *nem. con.*

Alteration of the Articles of Association.—It was proposed from the Chair that the alteration to the Articles of Association of the Anamallai Planters' Association as passed at the Annual General Meeting held on June 24, 1931, be confirmed.

* *Carried unanimously.*

4. (a) The paragraph reading 'The expression "planted acreage" in these presents means all planted areas including buildings, roads and drains,

but excluding cart roads' shall be altered to 'The expression "planted acreage" in these presents means all planted areas including buildings and estate paths, but excluding cart roads, swamps and rivers.'

9. The affairs of the Association shall be administered by a Committee of Management, such Committee to be comprised of one member of each Group of Estates of not less than 1,500 acres of cultivated land under one control, together with the Chairman and Secretary of the Association, as ex-officio members. In the event of the Chairman and/or the Secretary being chosen to represent the Groups of Estates by which they are employed, they shall cease to be ex-officio.

10. The Committee shall be nominated at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. Each Group of Estates shall nominate its own representative only. Any casual vacancy shall be filled by the Group of Estates which was previously represented by its retiring member.

11. The Chairman and Secretary shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, by the votes present or represented at the Meeting.

Standing Sub Committee.--It was proposed from the Chair: 'That a Standing No. 2 Committee of five members, together with the Honorary Secretary of the Association as an ex-officio member, be formed to go into matters of interest to the district.'

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman in proposing the formation of this Committee suggested that they should first take up the question of contract rates, and also examine the working of the newly-introduced commission scheme and the reduction of advances.

The following members were elected:--

Messrs. W. H. Martin, A. V. Danagher, O. M. Hetherington, G. A. LeMesurier, F. J. B. Diaper and C. F. Clark (*Honorary Secretary*).

Anamallai Game Association.--The Special Committee formed to go into this matter came to the following unanimous decision. --

'That the formation of a Game Association in the Anamallais is not at present practicable. Owing to a general lack of interest and support, it would not be possible to raise sufficient funds to maintain an Association with any efficiency.'

The Committee would like to add that as a Game Association is not practicable, a strong recommendation be put forward to the Forest Department requesting that the area of the Grass Hills, as given in the sketch attached hereto, be made into a Sanctuary for Ibex and Bison and that no shooting except of vermin, e.g., tiger, panther, wild dog, etc., be allowed in this area.'

The report of Committee was adopted, and the following resolution proposed by Mr. A. C. Cotton and seconded by Mr. G. B. Reade was put to the meeting and carried:--

'That this Association strongly recommend to the Forest Department that the area of the Grass Hills, as given in sketch accompanying Committee's Report, be made into a Sanctuary for Ibex and Bison and that no shooting except of vermin, e.g., tiger, panther, wild dog, etc., be allowed in this area.'

Instructions to Delegates to Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. to be held on August 17, 1931.--The meeting confirmed the following resolu-

tions, which had been circulated to all members, to be proposed by this Association at Bangalore :—

(1) 'That the Labour Department be under the control of a Committee elected by its subscribers yearly at the Annual General Meeting.'

(2) 'That the Meeting consider the advisability of closing down the Tea Scientific Station, and affiliation with the Tea Research Institute of Ceylon.'

(3) 'That the question of the Provident Fund of Employees of U.P.A.S.I. shall be gone into, and if it be considered that any member, now serving, would conceivably qualify for a pension, that arrangements be made to reserve for this now, and that a safe way to do this would be by making extra contributions to the Provident Fund.'

(4) 'That a Sub-Committee be formed to investigate the possibility of co-operating in developing the local tea market, together with the Indian Tea Cess Committee.'

Under item No. 7 of the Preliminary Agenda discussion is asked for on the following :—

'That the Articles of Association be so altered as to allow for any interest or Company voting on its own acreage basis at the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I., District representatives voting for those "not otherwise represented."

The Meeting discussed the resolutions put forward by the Executive Committee and other Planters' Associations. The delegates to U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting were given the Association's views on these resolutions.

Agenda for U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to ask that the following be added to Agenda :—

'WHITLEY COMMISSION REPORT.'

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to send to Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., the names of Anamallai delegates and visitors to Bangalore for the Annual General Meeting.

Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.—With the permission of the meeting, this subject was added to the Agenda.

Mr. W. H. Martin—Licensing Officer for the Anamallais—gave explanations of the working of Act. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate to all members of Association the information given.

CORRESPONDENCE

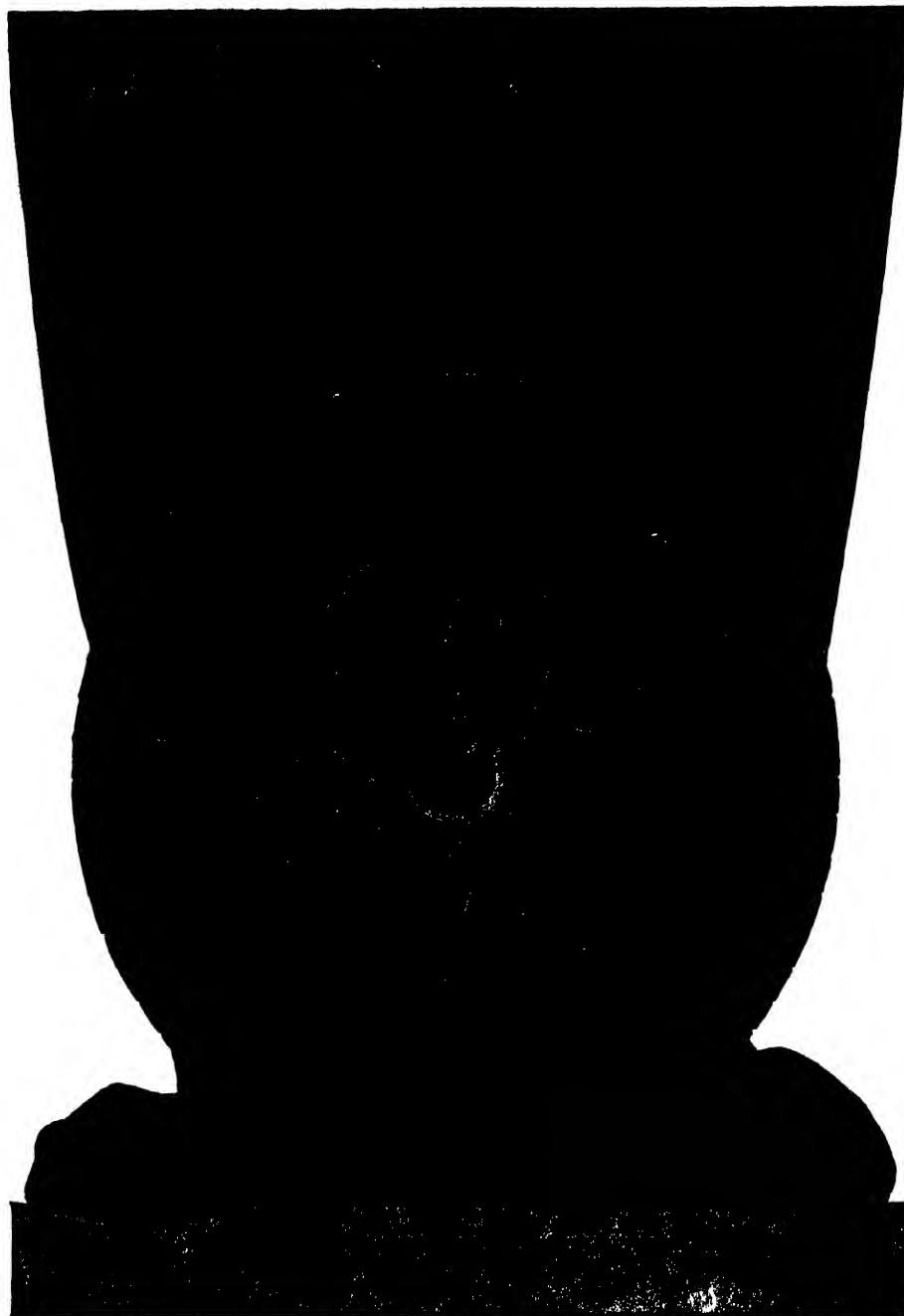
Tung Oil seeds.—Read letter No. 2175, dated July 3, 1931, from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., *re. above*. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to pay bill for Rs. 3-6.

Madras Planters' Constituency.—Read letter No. 2482, dated July 14, from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I. *Recorded.*

Registration of Births and Deaths.—Read letter No. 3334/31, dated June 16 last from Tahsildar of Pollachi *re. appointment of Registrar for Naduar Estate.* The Honorary Secretary was instructed to request Mr. C. R. T. Congreve to nominate a Registrar.

(Sd.) ERIC JOHNSON,
Chairman.

(Sd.) C. F. CLARK,
Honorary Secretary.



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CORRESPONDENCE

‘Honour Where Honour Is Due’

The Editor, The ‘Planters’ Chronicle’

DEAR SIR,

I have read Capt. Windle’s letter in your issue of July 4, and agree with him ‘Give credit where credit’s due.’ Let’s do so.

Mr. Frattini 16 or 17 years ago demonstrated on certain Estates in South Mysore the usefulness of spraying as a preventative against black rot with excellent results. Then at least ten years ago, Mr. Carr of the Bababoodans used to spray large areas of his Estate with, he told me, excellent results, and as far as Mysore is concerned I believe he was the first Planter to bring it into practical use, but we were slow in following his example. More’s the pity.

In my opinion though, the main credit for the tremendous strides spraying has made in Mysore and in districts outside Mysore during the past three years is due to Dr. Coleman and the Agricultural Department of the Government of Mysore. Three years ago not more than 500 acres of coffee were sprayed annually in Mysore. Now I should say anything from 6,000 to 7,000 acres are yearly sprayed and a good deal of this, twice. The Agricultural Department used to send out fieldmen into individual Estates to demonstrate the usefulness of spraying, by spraying small areas of their coffee for them and by this means popularized this work. They have now gone even further and keep sprayers at their planting depots which they hire out to the small owner who is unable to purchase one outright.

I have also reason to think that the Agricultural Department have given a good deal of help in the form of advice to Planters residing outside the State of Mysore in connection with spraying, and I unhesitatingly say that but for the demonstrations, experiments, and help of this Department there would never have been the tremendous strides made in spraying during the past three years which there has been.

While I fully agree as to the credit due to the two Planters mentioned by Capt. Windle there are, as will be seen, others also who deserve the gratitude of the Coffee Planting community.

OSSOOR ESTATE, HASSAN,

July 8, 1931.

Yours, etc.,

E. H. YOUNG.

The Editor, ‘The Planters’ Chronicle’

DEAR SIR,

I thoroughly agree with Capt. Windle’s sentiments, but your note at the foot of his letter in your issue of July 4, would lead one to believe that spraying of coffee was first carried out on the Shevaroys six years ago.

May I call your attention to Mr. Frattini’s experiments, when Scientific Assistant for Mysore, which commenced in May 1914, the results of which were published in a pamphlet in 1917, and also point out that some of the experiments were Dr. Coleman’s.

ALDUR P.O., KADUR DIST.,

July 15, 1931.

Yours, etc.,

A. MIDDLETON.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending July 2, 1931	January 1 to July 2, 1931	January 1 to July 2, 1930
A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, July 2; and July 9, 1931, respectively)				N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
				S. India.	a 0 7·73	0 11·12	1 2·38
				Ceylon ..	a 0 7·45	b 1 0·82	c 1 3·60
				Java ...	0 10·75	1 3·57	1 6·98
				Sumatra.	0 6·10	0 7·60	0 10·08
				Nyassa-land.	0 6·96	0 8·28	0 11·35
					Nil.	0 7·44	0 9·31
a) Anamallais—		s. d.		Total...	d 0 8·57	e 1 0·01	f 1 3·19
Velonie	219	0 8½ (2)					
*Thoni Mudi	152	0 8½ (9)					
Gajam Mudi	185	0 8 (2)					
*Sholayar	155	0 8 (2)					
b) Central Travancore-							
Carady Goody	98	0 9 (2)					
Twyford and Ashley Estates :—							
White Hills	59	0 9 (2)					
Stagbrook	139	0 8½ (2)					
Woodlands	100	0 8½ (2)					
Fairfield	23	0 8 (2)					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Lockhart	59	1 3½ (2)					
Thenmallay	140	1 1½ (9)					
Yellapatty	162	1 1½ (9)					
Lockhart	56	1 1½ (9)					
Letchmi	124	1 0½ (9)					
*Upp. Surianalle	127	0 10½ (2)					
Sevenmallay	159	0 10½ (9)					
*Surianalle	117	0 9½ (2)					
Vagavurral	87	0 8½ (9)					
*Upp. Surianalle	77	0 8½ (9)					
Kalaar	62	0 8½ (9)					
Munaar	168	0 8½ (9)					
*Surianalle	50	0 8 (9)					
(d) Nilgiris—							
Mailoor	28	1 2 (2)					
*Sutton	147	0 8½ (2)					
Nonsuch	57	1 7½ (2)					
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad —							
Seaforth	36	0 10½ (2)					
(f) South-Travancore—							
Ambanaad	27	0 8½ (2)					
Isfield	60	0 8 (2)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 6,051	b 137,717	c 161,430
d 80,194	e 2,170,626	f 2,128,616
g 3,971	h 141,688	i 171,881
j 79,857	k 2,250,483	l 2,219,054

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, July 28, 1931, was 3d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, July 25, 1931, were 81,104 tons, a decrease of 662 tons on July 18, 1931, in inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, July 25, 1931, were 54,335 tons, a decrease of 362 tons on July 18, 1931, inventory.

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, July 30, 1931

Planting.—There was a slight improvement in this section during the fortnight and fair enquiry was seen in local, Rubbers especially in *Malankaras* and *Thirumbadis* which were done at Rs. 20 and Rs 3 with further buyers left over in the market. Teas on the other hand went easier in the absence of enquiry : *Peermades* sagged to below Rs. 12 and *Periakayamalais* (Non-participating) to Rs. 17. In Sterling Scrips there has been little change for the better, Rubber Plantations have gone back to 13s. 6d. and the tone is distinctly weak.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 9	-
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 6 3	-
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 8 9	- 3d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 5 6	-
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 6	-
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	- 1s.
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 13 6	- 3s. 6d.
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 10 0	-

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	2½
Cochins Rs. 15	..	8
Devasholas Rs. 9	..	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	..	5
Malankaras Rs. 30	..	20
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	..	Noml.
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	95
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	2½
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	..	13
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	..	27
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	..	17
Periasholas Rs. 10	..	1
Periyars Rs. 10	..	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	..	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	75
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	..	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on 21st July, 1931, totalled 2,208,793 lbs. Quality showed improvement and for all such teas there was a very strong demand, and prices for fine descriptions showed very considerable advances. **NUWARA ELIYA AND MATORATA.**—There were some fine Invoices available; prices realised were frequently 20/30 cents above last. **HIGH GROWN.**—Uva side teas were very attractive with

occasional very fine lots, otherwise quality from other districts was barely equal. There was a strong demand and all grades showed a marked advance in rates. MEDIUM GROWN.—Quality was useful, all teas were in strong demand at fully firm rates. Low GROWN.—Demand was fair but prices were $\frac{7}{4}$ cents easier, black leaf Pekoes, however, were practically neglected and there were many withdrawals. FANNINGS AND DUSTS.—All fine and good quality kinds were considerably dearer; others were rather lower.

RUBBER.—About 135 tons were offered at the Auction held on 16th July, 1931, which included only a very small proportion of Standard Grades. There was a good general demand but an easier market. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet opened at 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents but soon firmed to 14 cents and eventually 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents showing a drop of $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent on last week's prices. All other grades of Sheet were quite well supported but showed a similar drop. Contract Quality Crepe opened at the same price as Sheet and for a time sold at a premium on this grade but subsequently realised 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents showing a decline of $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent on previous rates. Off Crepe also showed $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent decline while Mottled Brown sorts were about $\frac{1}{2}$ cent easier. There was a good enquiry for all grades of Scrap Crepe but best sorts were down $\frac{1}{2}$ to one cent on last Auction prices while Inferior black and earth sorts sold at about steady rates. There was scarcely any Scrap available in the Sale.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

July 12, 1931 to July 25, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ...	1·34	1·81	3 15
2. Kalthuritty.	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri ...	0·42	1·26	1·68
3. Kallar Bdg.	7·66	3·08	10·74	26. Ootacamund	0·57	1·10	1·67
4. Koney ...	...	...	...	27. Yercaud ..	2·29	5 00	7·29
5. Pattanapura.	5·22	4·00	9·22	28. Mango Range	6·76	...	...
6. Kumbazha ...	6·13	1·65	7·78	29. Devala ...	10·64	6·65	17·29
6a Peravanthan...	...	...	...	30. Devarshola...	2·81	1·02	3·83
6b Aneikolam...	11·06	7·14	18·20	31. CALICUR ..	9·43	7 03	16·46
7. Peermade ...	13·13	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi ...	16·80	...	...
8. Twyford ...	14·35	7·51	21·86	33. Vayitri ...	12·33	4·09	16·42
9. V'periyar ...	...	...	5·72	34. Manantoddi	8·15	1·84	9·99
10. Kalaar ...	11·37	...	...	35. Billigiris ...	3·26	3 70	6·96
11. Chittuvurrai	0·54	0·30	0·84	36. Sidapur ..	...	...	...
12. EODI' KANUR	0·04	...	...	37. Ghattad Hulls	...	...	...
13. COCHIN	6·85	5·51	12·36	38. Pollibetta ...	...	...	7·30
14. Mooply ...	8·91	5·38	14·29	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	7·49	3·04	10·53	40. Sakiaspur ..	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	...	...	...	41. Kadamanie ...	...	...	...
17. POLLACHIE	1·01	0·08	1·09	42. Balehonnur ...	9·32	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	6·80	...	11·30	43. Merthi subgey.	15·10	...	...
19. Karapara ..	9·30	4·50	...	44. Kelagur ...	...	...	13·70
20. Pullengode..	13·31	4·89	18·20	45. Durgabettta.	...	...	...
21. Nilambur ...	11·14	5·78	16·92	46. MANGALORR	8·41	13·63	22·04
22. Naduvattam	4·17	...	...	47. MADRAS ...	1·32	2·96	4·28
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	...	...	

4. Koney.—Rainfall fortnight ending July 18, 1931 = 7·63 in.
15. Pachaimallai.—Rainfall fortnight ending July 11, 1931 = 17·43 in.
36. Sidapur....Rainfall fortnight ending July 11, 1931 = 25 10 in.
41. Kadamanie.—Rainfall fortnight ending July 18, 1931 = 38·69 in.
44. Kelagur.—Rainfall fortnight ending July 11, 1931 = 32·71 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 17]

August 15, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. to be held on August 17, and succeeding days, will be the Thirty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Association, the first of the series having been held in 1894. *Thirty-eighth Annual General Meeting, Bangalore, August 17, 1931.* Last year's Meeting was chiefly remarkable for the unanimous desire for economy, and many far-reaching and sweeping changes in the organization have taken place since last August. It has been an extremely arduous and anxious year for the Committee and its Chairman, and the U.P.A.S.I. are lucky to have been guided during this critical period by so able and experienced a Chairman as Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.

From a list of the Agenda already published, it will be noted that there are a number of interesting resolutions to be moved and spoken to and these no doubt, if carried, will add to the prestige and uniformity of the Association.

The Meeting will also be noteworthy as lacking the presence of many prominent and well known figures who either through retirement or absence on leave, will not attend in Bangalore this year. Amongst them we may mention Messrs. H. Waddington and A. Wright (retired), W. A. J. Milner and R. Fowke (on leave), but we are pleased to welcome back Mr. F. E. James who only returned to India ten days ago and who, we understand, has now fully recovered from the severe illness he contracted in February.

In conclusion, we hope that as a result of the Meeting's deliberations, the U.P.A.S.I. will emerge stronger and more united than ever, and looking back upon what has been accomplished in the past year, during times of extraordinary stress and difficulty, there is every reason to anticipate that they will.

THE Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture, Nyasaland, for 1930 shows that the year under review was a difficult one for all producers.

Tea and Coffee in Nyasaland Owing to the continued fall in prices, the production of certain crops proved distinctly unremunerative.

Tea growing is entirely in the hands of European agriculturists and the acreage increased from 8,866 in 1929 to 9,686 in 1930 and production from 778 to 850 tons.

Prices were low and it is evident that quite apart from the present depression, there is need to raise the quality of Nyasaland Tea. The report shows that increased attention has been paid to shade trees and green manures and in the various factory processes, from withering to firing and grading.

There has been a general adoption of ridge terracing as a measure of soil conservation and about 85 per cent of the tea land of the Protectorate has been so treated. A Tea Experimental Station is in the course of erection under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture, and in time it is intended that the officer in charge of the station will become the advisory authority on local tea growing and manufacture.

Coffee.—A decrease in the acreage under coffee from 1,331 to 1,256 acres occurred during 1930. Production increased from 58 tons in 1929 to 64 tons in 1930 but the value of the produce fell off. Cultivation of 'arabica' coffee by the Europeans and 'robusta' coffee by natives is encouraged.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

RETAIL TEA PRICES

Some very substantial reductions in the retail prices of tea have taken place this week. According to the *Grocers' Review* the more general strength at the tea auctions have to some extent been due to the stimulated demand for the lower grades of tea consequent on the announcement of price reduction by several of the large distributors of proprietary packets. It is pointed out that there has been a tendency, slowly developing, for lower price tea, by a large section of the public, and with this concession it will in all probability stimulate business. 'It is quite evident that buyers on the London market will require to ensure that a fair stock is held to meet this demand, and a little extra buying all round is sufficient to harden up the market.' It would be interesting to know what percentage of Empire tea is contained in these blends!

CHINA TEA

Memories of the arrival at Blackwall of the famous tea clipper sailing ships of the middle nineteenth century is revived by a record discharge in King George V. dock last week of new season's tea from China ex the P. and O. liner *Burdwan*. Out of 3,000 packages discharged after *Burdwan* broke bulk at 8 a.m. on Monday, delivery of nearly 2,000 packages was

effected to the Port of London Authority's main tea depot at Commercial road during the day, and the tea was available for merchants' inspection and sale within a few hours. A great improvement in quality is seen in the new season's China tea. Practically all grades of Keemun are now available, ranging from about 1s. 5d. to finest. Fair business has been transacted, chiefly in teas from about 1s. 7d. to 2s. Better grades, over 2s. and upwards to about 3s. have also been dealt in.

—*The Home and Colonial Mail.*

* * *

A GOOD ROADS EXHIBITION AT SHANGHAI

Nowhere is the need for road extension and improvement greater than in China, and tyre manufacturers in particular have every reason to welcome the announcement that a Good Roads Exhibition is to be held at Shanghai from September 12 to October 2, to commemorate the eleventh anniversary of 'The National Good Roads Association of China' movement. The exhibition has the support of the national, provincial and municipal authorities, leading banking, financial, industrial and educational institutions of China, and guarantees have been received which assure financial success. In addition, the institutions and officials mentioned are lending their fullest co-operation to the end that the exhibition may be an unqualified success.

—*The India-Rubber Journal.*

:-o:-

SCIENCE IN THE INDIAN TEA INDUSTRY

BY

DR. HAROLD H. MANN, D.Sc., F.I.C., F.L.S.¹

Assistant Director, Woburn Experimental Station

I make no apology for bringing before a London audience some account of the achievements of experimental science in connection with the growing and manufacture of tea in India. For I feel that without the careful experiment, which has been made both by professional scientists and by practical planters, the industry, instead of being one of the largest and most successful forms of British enterprise in the tropics and sub-tropics, would probably long ago have been relegated to the limbo of failures. The history of tea in India is, in fact, the story of the introduction of an industry to that country from China, the discovery that almost all the information then existing about how to carry it on was unsuitable and unsatisfactory under the new conditions, the consequent all-but total failures of the industry in its early stages, and finally, the gradual building up, on a basis of new experiment, of the whole fabric of tea cultivation and manufacture as it is known at present. This present organization has

¹ Dr. Mann was formerly—for seven years—the first officer of the Scientific Department of the Indian Tea Association and it was upon the excellent foundations that he had laid during his work for this Association that subsequent developments had been based, according to the Chairman's introduction of the speaker in the presentation of this paper before the Indian Section of the Royal Society of Arts, London.

Later—in 1906—he became Principal of the Agricultural College at Poona, and then Director of Agriculture of the Bombay Presidency. When recently the Indian Association, after an interval of twenty years and in view of the large expenditure now involved in the work of the Scientific Department, desired a report from an outside authority on the conduct of operations, it was to Dr. Mann that it turned for advice and his approval of results obtained since his service was finished was received with much satisfaction.

gradually become more and more efficient; the tea produced has become, on the whole, better and certainly stronger; the yield per acre which can be obtained has steadily increased (though, owing to schemes of restriction, the highest possible yield is not always obtained); and the industry has become one of the triumphs of Western organization in tropical regions.

TEA CULTIVATION UNIQUE

Considered as an agricultural industry, tea cultivation is in many respects unique. I do not know any other cultivation where the object of the grower is to produce a continual succession of young shoots on a perennial bush or tree, and where, as soon as these young shoots reach a definite stage of growth they are removed from the plant and form the crop. The only remotely analogous case is that of the mulberry tree grown for feeding silkworms, but the analogy even in this case is very far-fetched. Owing, however, to this uniqueness, many of the agricultural methods adopted in other forms of cultivation are inapplicable without a good deal of modification in tea culture, and it is clear that before the best results can be obtained, special methods of planting, of treating the bush after planting, of pruning, and of the removal of the shoots (plucking), have to be worked out, while the processes of cultivation and manuring have to be adapted to the special case.

The special applications were worked out, for their own conditions in China many centuries ago where the actual cultivation of tea first became really an industry. For the China conditions of small peasant holdings and indefinite quantities of animal, largely human, manure, I am not sure that these methods have ever been materially improved. And they formed the basis of work when commercial tea began to be grown in India in the forties of the last century. They proved, however, totally inadequate and largely unsuitable, under Indian conditions, and it became necessary to modify largely every one of the methods introduced from China in order to make and maintain tea growing as a paying industry.

The history of the attempts to introduce tea cultivation into India is of extreme interest, and we may spend a few minutes in briefly reviewing the matter.

EARLY TEA TRADE

From its original introduction into use in Europe the supply of tea had been a Chinese monopoly, and the trade in it to England had been a monopoly of the East India Company. In the early part of the Nineteenth century, on the renewal of its charter, the East India Company lost its trading monopoly, and as the trade in tea was one of the most valuable parts of its activities, it became anxious to obtain a rival supply entirely within its own control. As a result, great anxiety arose for the production of tea in India, if such production were by any means possible. It was already known that the tea plant would thrive under widely varying conditions. It had been naturalized in Brazil, where it had grown magnificently, in St. Helena, in Java, in Prince of Wales Island, etc.—but the tea produced in all these places was very unsatisfactory. Of that made in Penang, it was stated that it had ‘acquired the appalling property of a nauseating and slightly emetic drug.’ ‘Everywhere,’ says a Calcutta writer in 1834, ‘it thrives as far as mere vegetation is concerned, but nowhere, except in China, has any successful effort been made to render it a profitable product of industry. We have a suspicion that this arises from

causes which will be found a bar to the profitable cultivation of the plant in India. Admitting that localities for it may exist in our territories approximating in climate to its native country, we should fear that, as the value of tea depends on its aromatic flavor, differences in soil may produce changes as fatal as those which occur in tobacco and in the vine, and that the hysön and pekoe and twankay and souchong of India will be very little like their high-flavored namesakes of the celestial empire.' The writer of this extract was right in that the tea of India is different from that of China, but he had hardly thought of the possibility that Indian tea might, in certain cases at any rate, have a stronger and better flavor than that of China, but such has proved to be the case.

INTRODUCTION INTO INDIA

In spite, however, of a somewhat general feeling of doubt as to the likelihood of the success of tea growing in India, there were sufficient believers in its possibility that, in January, 1834, the Government of Lord W. Bentinck appointed a committee to consider the question of introducing a supply of plants from China, to decide the most suitable and likely place for growing them, and to make arrangements for bringing the seed and making the experiment. In some respects this committee acted with more energy than most similar bodies. Events, at any rate, followed very rapidly. They sent one of their members to China to bring plants and seeds, and so brought about the first introduction of China tea seed to India, which has been one of the curses of the tea industry ever since. They recommended that tea cultivation should be started on the lower hills and valleys of the Himalaya range, by which they meant Dehra Dun and Mussoorie, on the Nilgiris and other mountains of Central and Southern India, and on the Eastern Frontier. Whether the last suggestion referred to Assam I do not know. But the discovery of indigenous tea on the borders and even in what was then the new province of Assam, drew attention almost immediately to the special suitability of that part of India to the proposed new cultivation. A scientific commission was sent to Assam to investigate, experimental gardens were established, which were placed in charge of Mr. C. A. Bruce, whose name will always be honored as perhaps the most effective pioneer of tea cultivation in India. Chinese experts were imported to show how cultivation and manufacture should be conducted, and tea was actually made and sent to Calcutta in 1836, only two years after the Tea Committee had been appointed. This original tea must have been very nasty, though the then Viceroy drank it and pronounced it good, but in 1837 merchantable tea was made, and in 1838 it appeared on the London market. In this year there were eight chests in the first importation, which obtained fancy prices as well as those of the following year.

EXPERIMENTAL PLANTATIONS PROPOSED

In 1839 the question of converting the experimental plantations of the Government into a commercial project came to the front, and in 1839 the Assam Company was actually floated to take over two-thirds of the Government plantations in Assam and extend on this basis. In March, 1840, they took charge, and the history of tea cultivation for at least twelve years is the history of the struggles of the Assam Company. They were entirely dependent for technical knowledge of tea cultivation and manufacture on Chinese imported to India, and I may say at once that the

attempts to apply their methods in Assam, without modification, nearly ruined the whole project. The tea was made, and I think it was fairly good tea, but the quantity obtained from the plants was so small, and the methods of working were so expensive that by 1847 the Company was faced with the question of shutting down the whole scheme and acknowledging failure. The London section of the Assam Company wished, at any price, to get out of the whole business, and offered to the Calcutta section to buy the whole concern. This was not taken up, and ultimately it was decided to risk another year, that is to say, the 1848 season.

This was a very sad sequel to the very high hopes of a few years before. No profits whatever had been made. The estimates of yield of tea had always been far in excess of what had been obtained and it had become increasingly evident that nobody knew how to grow tea so as to maintain the yield of the bushes, let alone increase the amount of tea which could be made from them. The concern had now, in fact, reached the stage when the method of planting and plucking tea, which had been learned from the Chinese who had taught the pioneers, had definitely broken down, and it was evident that unless new methods could be found which would yield more tea per acre and maintain the yield of the bushes better, the industry must close.

NEW METHODS ADOPTED

For the first time, in fact, since the industry was started, experiments in the management of the tea bushes by methods which were unknown to the Chinese growers were undertaken, and gradually results were obtained. I must express my admiration for a number of the planters of those days. Though they had no special scientific training, some of the changes they introduced into tea planting were inspired by as true an instinct as any changes which have been suggested since that time. Perhaps the man whose experimental work inspires me with most admiration, at this time, was George Williamson, who was Superintendent of the Assam Company from 1852, after being assistant on its gardens for several years before. He saw that the failure to get anything like the yield of tea from the bushes in the tea gardens of that epoch was due to the fact that the leaves were taken as soon as they grew and thus there was no yield in the later part of the season, while the bushes quickly deteriorated. After many experiments he devised a system of plucking, which in its essence is in vogue today, though there have been many improvements, especially during the last thirty years. In the first year of his superintendency his Directors expressed great anxiety because the crop in the early part of the tea season was smaller than usual : he replied that it was all right and that the crop would come on later. So it did, and now in all the tea districts of North-East India it would seem absurd to get the maximum crop of the season in the month of April, as was done on the gardens of the Assam Company in 1848.

BECAME A PAYING PROPOSITION

Early in the fifties of the last century, tea growing became a paying proposition, largely because of the experiments of the pioneers in all directions, of which I have just given one example. The yield increased : the yield of the bushes was better maintained : and though deterioration of gardens and bushes was still rapid, yet there was plenty of new land to put under the crop, and the profits were such as to allow tea to be abandoned and to be replaced by new tea without preventing tea plantations from being

profitable concerns. To this period, chiefly in the seventies and eighties of the last century, belongs a great extension of the tea industry, but at the same time the lack of anything like satisfactory knowledge of the proper management and maintenance of the tea bushes became more and more evident. For some time attention was chiefly directed to the application of engineering to tea manufacture, that is to say to the replacement of hand rolling, charcoal firing, and other processes of tea manufacture by mechanical methods. This, of course, caused economies in the cost of producing tea. But little by little tea began to suffer from diseases and pest which had not been noticed in the earlier days or which had not done much damage. There was found more and more abandoned tea in North-East India. Many gardens, perhaps more in Cachar than anywhere else, were found to be so much deteriorated that large areas of old tea gradually relapsed into jungle. And as a result of all these things, there was great anxiety among progressive people connected with tea growing in India, and it was again and again suggested that scientific advice should be obtained.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION BEGUN

The first fruits of this was the engagement of my old friend, Mr. Kelway Bamber, a chemist who was engaged by the Indian Tea Association early in the nineties, and who, after examination of the situation on the spot and examination of many tea soils and of tea itself wrote a book on the Chemistry and Agriculture of Tea, which may still be consulted with a good deal of advantage. This was issued in 1893. Bamber specially studied the nature of tea soils, and for the first time suggested the lines of manuring the tea bushes for leaf. Mr. Bamber left the country but returned several years later to Ceylon, where he became perhaps the greatest authority on tea manuring for many years.

A year or two later the tea authorities in India became alarmed at the rapid increase in the amount and virulence of the pests and blights which attack the tea plant, and obtained the services of Dr. Watt, later Sir George Watt, to survey the whole ground, at least in Assam, in order to suggest what should be done. He made a most productive tour in Assam and Kangra and collected together all the knowledge then existing in the tea districts regarding the pests and diseases which affect the cultivated tea bush. This, together with many very valuable observations of his own, formed the basis of one of the most valuable publications that has ever been made on tea. He attempted the first real study of the scientific basis of tea growing, specially insisting, however, on the relationship between incorrect methods and the increase of pests and diseases. I want to take this opportunity to say a word or two with regard to the work done by Dr. Watt. When I first went to India in 1900, he was a man near the age of retirement, but was still full of energy and always ready to talk about his tea investigations. He very largely initiated me into the scientific needs of the tea industry, and visited with me two or three of the principal tea growing areas of North-East India. My tours with him were an experience I shall never forget. He was certainly the very best observer I have ever seen, and I always felt that a morning in the field with Dr. Watt was an experience during which I should see probably three or four times as much as I could see when by myself. He has died during the last few months, and though he never did serious work on tea after 1900 his influence still remains.—*Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.*

(To be concluded in a later issue)

HADDON HILL SCHOOL

NUWARA ELIYA, CEYLON

The illustrated leaflets enclosed with this issue, give a good idea of the school but it was not possible to include all the buildings in the photograph, and the girls' house is beyond and not visible. It will no doubt be remembered that in our issues dated June 22, July 20 and July 27, respectively, of 1929, a full description of the advantages that this School offers to parents in South India was given, but in view of the present general depression in trade which affects Planters in Ceylon and South India alike, it will not be out of place to repeat them.

Mr. H. H. B. Hawkins, who took over in 1926 from Mr. E. T. Davis, the founder of the School, writes that the Planters' Association of Ceylon are helping parents, hard hit by the present conditions, in respect to the education of their children, and in conjunction with them Mr. Hawkins makes special terms in all cases helped by that Association. Similarly he would work in with the U.P.A.S.I. on the same lines as no doubt there are parents in South India also who find the expense of having their children educated at home, impossible to maintain.

If this matter interests parents, Mr. Hawkins states he would be pleased to give the conditions under which he and the P. A. of Ceylon co-operate.

From people who have had actual experience of the school through sending their children there, we should like to endorse their opinion and say that from the excellent results attained, Haddon Hill compares very favourably with the best type of English Preparatory School. The excellent climate of N'Eliya and the attention paid to the children's development both in and out of school, more than justifies parents taking advantage of having their children near at hand, thus saving much expense in passages home and also has the advantage that holidays can be spent with their parents.

In conclusion, we would welcome Planters' views on the above and assure them that if they will communicate direct with Mr. Hawkins, he will be very pleased to give them any further information they may require.

TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA.—

On Thursday about 12,870 packages were offered. In many cases quality shewed some improvement, and bidding at the auctions was animated. Low Brokens and Fannings were in good demand, and advances on last week's prices were often paid. Tippy grades with well-made leaf were wanted and full prices resulted for any desirable lots.—*The Produce Markets Review, 11-7-31.*

MANY NEW RECORDS IN EMPIRE BUYING

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD'S ACTIVE YEAR

That the growing habit of buying from within the Empire has attained an impetus in the United Kingdom, which even the world-wide economic depression has been powerless to retard, is the remarkable fact recorded in the annual report of the Empire Marketing Board published this week. (H.M. Stationery Office, 1s. net). Twenty-two commodities, drawn from four Dominions and several Colonies, were noted in the Annual Report of the Empire Marketing Board for 1928-1929 as having been imported into the United Kingdom in the previous two seasons in greater quantities than ever before in their histories. Again, the Board's Annual Report for 1929-1930 showed that twenty-five new records had been set up, in the year then under review, by Empire foodstuffs, as regards volume of imports into the United Kingdom. Nearly half these did even better in the year now being considered, while a further substantial list of Empire foodstuffs established records. Apples from Canada and from New Zealand reached this country in record quantities in 1930, as did bananas from the British West Indies, butter and cheese from New Zealand, coffee from British East Africa, currants from Australia, eggs from Australia and South Africa, grape-fruit from South Africa and Palestine, lamb from New Zealand, oranges, peaches, plums, sugar and wine from South Africa, pears from no less than four Dominions, and tobacco from India.

A number of other foodstuffs are also mentioned in the Report for which, while the 1929 record was not reached in 1930, the last year's imports surpassed all previous years, except 1929. These include Australian raisins and sultanas, New Zealand frozen pork, Ceylon tea, Australian sugar, and British Malayan canned pineapples.

CHANGES IN PUBLIC TASTE

The people of the United Kingdom are proving themselves steadily more willing to buy from within the Empire. Many factors have combined to bring about this encouraging result. First, more scientific attention is being paid to-day than ever before by Empire producers to the need for supporting the natural high quality of their goods by grading and orderly marketing in all its branches. Secondly, distributive traders of all kinds in the United Kingdom have shown themselves wholeheartedly resolved to further the progress of Empire buying along sound economic lines. Thirdly, the contact between producers overseas and wholesale and retail traders in the United Kingdom grows steadily closer. Fourthly, consumers in the United Kingdom, men and women, are becoming more aware of the excellent and wide range of Empire products and of the importance of Empire buying.

EXTENSIONS RECOMMENDED

When the Imperial Conference met in 1926, the Board was only a few months old, so the Conference of 1930 was the first to be held since the Board began actively to perform its functions. The Conference passed the Board under review, and adopted a number of resolutions affecting its present and future activities. Surveying the Board's work since its inception in 1926, the Conference expressed itself as satisfied that it is valuable to the Commonwealth as a whole, and recommended its continuance and

its extension in certain directions, notably in the spheres of market intelligence, statistical surveys and market promotion. The Conference noted and approved the Empire Marketing Board's programme of research, involving commitments approaching £2,000,000 from the Empire Marketing Fund, as well as independent contributions by Empire Governments.

A REGIONAL 'SALES DRIVE'

Another extension of what may be regarded as the Board's more directly commercial activities in the field of Empire marketing is instanced in a special campaign which was undertaken, at the beginning of 1931, in Lancashire with a view to increasing the sales of home and oversea Empire butter in that area. Here long established prejudice in favour of casked butters of pale colour was held to be too deeply entrenched to permit an effective distribution being made of Empire butters, particularly those from Australia and New Zealand. The Board decided that, as large supplies were available of butter of first-rate quality from these Dominions, an effort should be made to overcome this sales resistance by a definite appeal to the distributive trades. The Board, therefore, called into consultation the London Managers of the Australian and New Zealand Dairy Produce Boards, and invited their co-operation in a concerted effort.

An office was accordingly opened by the Board in Manchester early in January, calls were made, in the first instance, upon the importers and wholesalers in Liverpool and Manchester, and their co-operation in the scheme secured. The Board's officers then proceeded to call upon every retailer in Manchester and certain other Lancashire towns in order to influence those who did not at present stock Empire butters. The results of the campaign have been remarkably successful. Out of 6,620 shops visited, 2,940 were selling Empire butter when the campaign began, while, before it closed, the number had risen to 4,903, an increase of 2,000 shops selling Empire butter. The close co-operation of the two Dominion Dairy Produce Boards unquestionably contributed to this success. There is clear evidence that the old prejudices against boxed butters have been broken down—it is hoped, permanently. The experience gained in this experiment of employing travellers without samples in close co-operation with the representatives of the overseas producers encourages the Board to believe that they have here a field capable of considerable extension. Indications suggest that the continued use of the three methods of approach, which have been a feature of the past year's work in the field of marketing promotion, may materially contribute to the Board's success.

PUBLICITY

Eight methods of publicity have again been used. First, advertisements have been inserted in the national press and in trade and local papers. Secondly, posters have been displayed on the 1,750 frames distributed over 450 towns. The sets of posters have been changed seventeen times in the year. Hoardings were used at Birmingham. Reproductions of suitable posters with leaflets were issued to 22,000 schools in the United Kingdom which had applied for them. Thirdly, display material for shops has again been sent out, and leaflets, both for housewives and for schools, have been issued in great quantities. Fourthly, lectures have been given. Fifthly, wireless talks to housewives have been arranged by courtesy of the British Broadcasting Corporation, following which 20,000 individual applications were received for leaflets. The Chairman of the

Board and of the Research Grants Committee both gave talks in connection with the Board's work. Sixthly, the Board has taken part, extensively, in exhibitions and shopping weeks. Seventhly, meetings of business men, traders and producers have been addressed. Eighthly, the distribution of films through theatrical and other channels has been developed.

THE BOARD'S METHODS

Each of the methods hitherto employed by the Board for the furtherance of Empire marketing has again proved valuable in 1930-31. The policy of making grants for scientific research work in the United Kingdom and in the Oversea Empire has been continued. Economic investigation and market enquiries have been carried out on a more intensive scale; and publicity, in all its branches, has been used to popularise the wisdom of Empire buying. It has always been the Board's view that, in every Empire country, Empire buying begins at home; and the fact that the producers of the United Kingdom have first claim in their own country on the home consumer has, as always, been stressed in the Board's appeal.

MARKET INTELLIGENCE

The importance of collecting information as to supplies of Empire and foreign commodities available from week to week, and of disseminating such information as widely as possible among Empire producers and others concerned in Empire trade, has been fully appreciated by the Board. The issue of weekly notes for the fruit and dairy produce trades has been extended. The latter include figures, hitherto unavailable, of butter in cold storage, and these have made possible a study of the consumption of imported butter, which in the first five months of 1931 was found to have risen by about 14 per cent over the corresponding period of previous year—an increase almost entirely derived from Empire sources.

CONSUMER'S PREFERENCE

The Board's machinery for testing the differing market requirements of the United Kingdom has been extended, and a number of investigations have been conducted and their findings made available to producers and others concerned. Experimental shipments of Empire commodities which might find a market in the United Kingdom have been organised in co-operation with the authorities in the countries of origin. Studies of wastage in transit have been made.

TWO EMPIRE SHOPS

The year has been notable for outstanding activity in this field. The experiment tried at Glasgow in the previous year of popularising and extending the sale of Empire produce by the opening of a shop, in which samples were sold to the public under conditions which secured the goodwill and co-operation of the trades proved definitely successful. A similar shop was, therefore, opened in Birmingham in January of this year, and plans are under consideration for acquiring the tenancy of other shop premises in various centres for periods not exceeding six months. These shop experiments have the merit of affording an opportunity to Empire countries in turn of making a special display of their produce in surroundings which are designed to stimulate public interest and under conditions which, thanks to the keen interest taken by the distributive trade, are likely

to be productive of permanent results. The temporary establishment of an Empire shop in a particular district also provides a centre at which the publicity and marketing activities both of the Board and of the Governments concerned can be strikingly concentrated.

THE COLLECTIVE CONSUMER

The importance of securing the practical interest of the large buyers of foodstuffs, such as local authorities, institutions, hotels, shipping companies and other bodies which undertake catering on a large scale, has been recognized from the outset, and tentative steps to develop this field of activity has been taken on more than one occasion. During the past year the Board felt justified, as a result of the experience they had gained since their formation, in beginning serious effort in this field. A special staff was, accordingly, appointed to call upon local authorities, after suitable introduction, and to discuss with them the extent to which their purchases of Empire goods might be increased. This experiment has already proved to be fully justified. The reception accorded to the Board's officers by local authorities all over England and Wales has been most encouraging, and some two-hundred authorities have invited the Board to submit suggestions for incorporation in their tender forms, when these are under revision. The new forms of tender became operative, in the majority of cases, on April 1. It is too early yet to judge of the full effect of the changes which have been made as a result of the advice tendered by the Board, but there is no doubt that the purchasing power of local authorities is in course of being mobilised in the interest of Empire trade in no uncertain fashion.

—The Produce Markets Review, 11-7-31.

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INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION

For the past fifty years the Indian Tea Association (London) has rendered valuable work in guarding and furthering the interests of the tea industry. The report on the termination of the fifty-first year of the Association's operations, which has just been issued, reflects further credit to their good services. Our readers are fully aware of the good work carried out by the Association in increasing the demand for Empire tea. The Indian Tea Association, in conjunction with the Ceylon Association and the Southern Indian Association, realising the serious position of the Empire tea industry and the necessity for some measure of protection, prepared a circular letter on these lines, and upwards of 100,000 copies have been circulated to shareholders in tea companies. The Association has viewed with considerable alarm the increasing importation of foreign-grown teas into the United Kingdom market, more especially the produce of the Netherlands East Indies. Since the failure of the application for a Marking Order careful consideration has been given to the question of propaganda for Indian, or Empire, teas in this country, and the Association recommended that the Tea Cess Committee should allocate £10,000 for the purpose of investigation work in the United Kingdom, which amount was sanctioned by the Cess Committee at their half-yearly meeting on March 20, 1931. If they are successful in obtaining a cess, Ceylon have indicated that they will join in this campaign. Mr. Harpur, the late Commissioner

of the Tea Cess Committee in India, who had retired from work in the East; was engaged by the Association as from May 1, 1931, to conduct this investigation, and he has interviewed all the principal tea-distributing firms on the subject of a campaign for Empire teas. As a result, it is hoped that support to an Empire tea campaign will be forthcoming from practically the whole of the distributing trade, and negotiations are in progress between the Association, the Indian Trade Commissioner, and the Empire Marketing Board towards establishing a campaign.

As regards the Indian Tea Association's work to increase the sale of tea in India, the same methods of work as were in force have been adhered to. Demonstrations throughout the year numbered 297,767, and lectures 14,623. The arrangements made by the railways for supplying tea to the lower-class passengers have been extended by the inclusion of the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The Commissioner considers that the progress possible on some of the railways where operations have been in force for several years has reached a point where further supervision is not required, and he proposes to remove some of the staff on to the bus routes. For some time, however, there has been some expression of opinion, both in India and at home, that the extension of the sale of tea in India could be more rapidly secured if cheaper tea were made available, and at the half-yearly meeting of the Tea Cess Committee in March the sum of Rs. 1½ lakhs was allotted to a scheme for a packing factory. The Association, however, were not disposed to consider the proposals put forward for the erection of such a factory until every effort had been made to secure the co-operation of the distributing trade.—*Home and Colonial Mail*, 9-7-31.

WHY RECLAIMED RUBBER SELLS ABOVE PARITY WITH THE COMMODITY

That the reclaimed rubber industry is suffering primarily from the general business depression and only secondarily from the effects of cheap raw rubber is the opinion of Messrs. Arthur D. Little, Inc., of Cambridge (Mass., U.S.A.). Without doubt, they say, large volumes of reclaimed rubber are used because of the manufacturer's fear of changes. But reclaimed rubber is no longer a mere substitute for crude rubber. In addition to its similarity to crude rubber, it also possesses properties which differ in degree and kind. These differences are valuable enough to warrant the higher cost involved in using it. The advantages appear in the different stages of manipulation, vulcanization, or even utility in the finished product. Thus it is a curious fact that a combination of crude rubber with most reclaimed rubbers produces a mixture which is more plastic than either alone. Such combinations mix much faster and absorb powdered fillers at a more rapid rate, not only increasing production of both machine and operator, but also reducing power consumption and wear and tear on equipment. A large volume of inert fillers may also be thus incorporated without producing the 'overmilled' effect that often results when crude rubber alone is used.

Owing to the fact that certain types of reclaimed rubber resemble semi-vulcanized rubber when cold, its intelligent employment may eliminate preliminary vulcanization or semi-cure in processing. The motor hood

cloth industry has not as yet found a substitute for some grades of reclaimed rubber which not only take a perfect impression of the embossing rolls, but which will maintain that impression during the heat of vulcanization. Crude rubber compounds are apt to be too springy, and even if this is overcome by clever compounding the tendency of uncured crude rubber to thin down, run and obliterate the desired impressions remains. Reclaimed rubbers, when intelligently employed, also effect a marked reduction in the time required for complete vulcanization. In addition to their content of rubber hydrocarbon, reclaimed rubbers also contain valuable ingredients in an excellent state of dispersion.

There is, moreover, a vast difference between crude and reclaimed rubber when subjected to the action of rubber solvents. Crude rubber, especially after milling, will readily go into solution. Reclaimed rubber will swell, but will remain as such surrounded by the clear solvent. As a result the easiest way to make hose for resisting the action of such solvents is to incorporate large volumes of reclaimed rubber. This difference in the action of solvents is taken advantage of in another way in the spreading of textile fabrics. Crude rubber solutions in volatile organic solvents are very viscous, so that there is considerable difficulty in obtaining smooth uniform coats. Even when this is accomplished, there is a double expense involved; the comparatively low concentration of rubber employed means that there is a great solvent loss, and in addition the fabric requires a large number of passes in order to build up the required thickness, thereby resulting in a reduced productivity for equipment and operator. There are grades of reclaimed rubber available which are much better suited than crude rubber for many kinds of spreader operation. Such solutions are not as springy as those made from crude rubber. As a result, heavier coatings may be applied per pass. Furthermore, since the solvent is held less tenaciously by the reclaimed rubber, evaporation proceeds at a much faster rate and production is speeded up. The resulting rubber surfaces are firmer and not as tacky as would be the case if crude rubber alone were used. This has its advantages in that there is an absence of troubles due to the sticking of coated surfaces or the picking of dirt and nap if the coated fabric is rolled up on itself in process. These are some of the many considerations which induce rubber manufacturers to retain reclaimed rubber in many of their formulas. Reclaimed rubber no longer stands merely as a guard against high prices for crude rubber. Reclaimed rubber is now recognised as a valuable compounding ingredient which imparts distinctive properties not readily obtained in other ways.—*The India-Rubber Journal*.

EXPORTS OF JAVA TEA

Shipments during January-March period are in Excess of those of the
Same Period of 1929-30

Special Correspondence

BATAVIA, April 22, 1931.

The exports of tea from Java during the period January to March of the present year amounted to 17,625,060 kilos, this being in excess of shipments during the same period during the preceding three years.

Comparative figures, with countries of distribution, are given in the accompanying table.

JAVA TEA EXPORTS

January-March—Weights in Kilos

	Jan.-Mar. 1931	Jan.-Mar. 1930	Jan.-Mar. 1929	Jan.-Mar. 1928
Holland	3,917,870	4,156,715	3,240,309	3,732,441
United Kingdom	8,111,913	8,385,478	8,925,172	6,808,987
Australia	2,319,942	1,696,818	1,618,875	2,399,961
United States	540,628	476,661	400,417	298,611
Canada	...	4,875	50,594	82,352
Singapore	60,693	72,853	91,503	67,331
British India	120,797	422,534	423,223	645,492
South Africa	112,632	91,853	65,189	71,123
South America	339,732	165,989	131,883	274,336
France	21,746	67,696	62,857	36,028
Germany	10,209	15,709	23,730	32,767
Belgium	...	...	6,652	...
Italy	...	...	...	1,290
Denmark	...	...	440	657
Balkan States	...	...	...	4,548
European Turkey	15,150	8,075	29,463	54,245
Spain	...	...	...	2,000
China	...	...	177,509	17,269
Russia	67,123	328,282	218,992	337,813
Mesopotamia	1,205,032	596,100	293,424	136,636
Egypt	680,193	353,479	385,796	56,903
New Zealand	...	5,249	...	...
Port Said	3,402	50,826	10,040	15,009
British E. Africa	...	8,508	70,344	181,751
Arabia	...	814	42,532	5,793
Penang	6,049	5,128	13,400	6,634
Japan	...	...	...	...
Other countries	91,949	19,746	15,395	10,569
Total kilos.	...	17,625,060	16,933,388	16,947,739
		G. G. W.—The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.	15,280,546	

DISTRICT NOTES

NILGIRI WYNAAD

Proceedings of an extraordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association held at 11 a.m. on July 14, 1931, at Gudalur Rest House.

Present:

Messrs. R. M. Nicolls (*Chairman*), C. K. Pittock, J. E. Bisset, C. W. Burgess, R. M. Greig, W. L. Roberts and A. N. Scott Hart (*Honorary Secretary*).

PROCEEDINGS

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read.

Read letter received from Mr. R. W. Levett expressing his inability to be present at the meeting.

Fixed Deposit Account.

Mr. Pittock proposed and Mr. Bisset seconded the following which was carried unanimously :—

'That the question of placing Association's funds with the Coimbatore Urban Bank be considered.'

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to make the necessary enquiry.

Tea Scientific Station.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary, UPASI, asking for information regarding the amalgamation with the T.R.I., Ceylon, and whether the resignation of our Tea Scientific Officer, Dr. W. S. Shaw, had been accepted and that this matter be placed on the agenda at the next meeting of the Association.

Mr. Pittock asked that the delegates take full information with regard to Coffee and other matters of interest to this Association.

Read letter from Mr. G. W. Fulcher regarding the following :—

'That one delegate be sent to Bangalore this year to save expenditure'.

It was decided to allow this matter to stand over until the next meeting, so that enquiries could be made as to what other Associations were doing. If the majority were being represented by one delegate only, the business of the meeting would have to be curtailed, as one delegate would not be able to attend all the sub-committee meetings, and therefore the sending of two delegates would be hardly necessary.

Correspondence and other competent business.

The Chairman read letter which he had received from the Director of Public Health and the meeting decided to ask the Chairman to reply and inform the Director that the members of the Association would welcome the experienced advice of the Public Health Department, especially with reference to Malaria survey, but suggest that a specified date be allotted for their visit to this district, so that the estate managers would have ample time to arrange to co-operate fully with the Health Officers and derive as much benefit from the visit as possible.

Roads.

Mr. Pittock said that the Association and individuals appeared to take very little interest in the state of the roads in the district, and it was useless for the District Board members to represent the matter strongly without the support of the district, and it would strengthen their hand enormously if members would write in and complain when occasions arose, as this appeared to be the only way of getting the Board to pay attention to the appalling condition of the roads in our district. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate members with regard to this.

Taluk Boards.

Mr. Pittock informed the meeting that the idea of forming Taluk Boards had been turned down, and in their place were to be Panchayats. This was a matter in which the Association will have to take a keen interest.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

A. N. SCOTT HART,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) R. M. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING JUNE, 1931

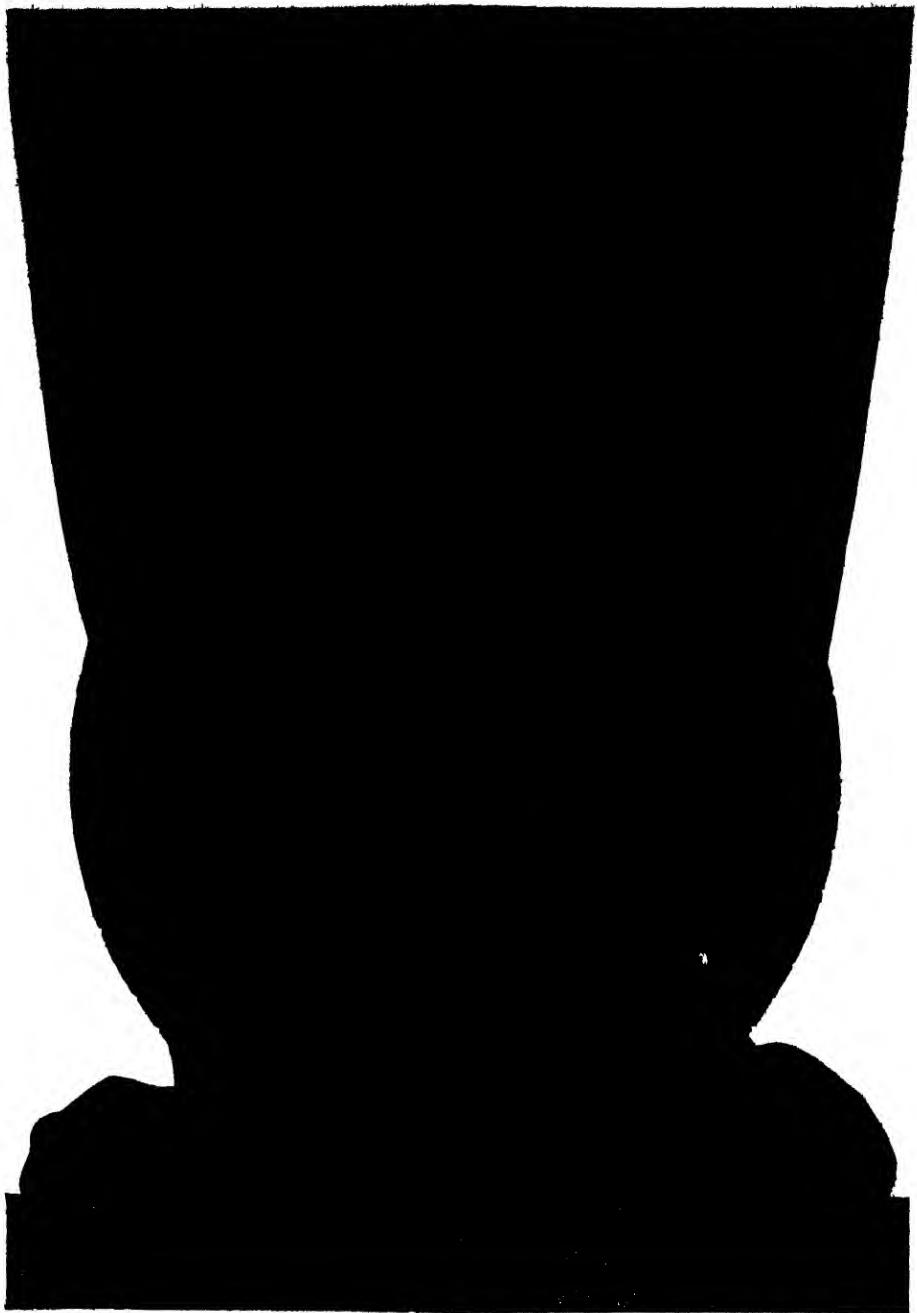
From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	506	...	...	4	...	...
Calicut	415	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin	533	...	135	140	...	543
Total	...	1,454	...	4,036	185,414	135	159	4	...
Previously...	93,117	9,879	231	2,457
Total cwt.	since 1-1-31.	350,357	...	5,490	185,414	48,752	93,276	9,883	2,457
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Calicut	25,071	22,306	908,019	...	...	...
Cochin	114,177	6,879	...	...	...
Tuticorin	2,340	102,851	185,096	...	...	...
Alleppey	Total	37,411	246,213	1,093,115	...	...
Previously	189,184	2,120,873	3,016,709	69,505	...	22,400
Total lbs.	since 1-1-31.	7,042,170	...	226,595	2,367,086	4,109,824	69,505	...	22,400
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	1,502	...	...	500	496	...
Calicut	18,986	...	3,161,475	...	505	...
Cochin	18,898	36,694	2,207,444	...	24,742	...
Tuticorin	226,645	6,240	...	...	...
Alleppey	17,403	...	...	...	...
Total	...	39,386	274,742	5,275,159	3,800	496	508	24,742	480
Previously	...	189,453	343,105	7,617,488	2,716	432	...	37,672	2,645
Total lbs.	since 1-1-31.	13,912,824	228,839	617,847	12,982,647	6,516	928	508	62,414
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras
Calicut
Cochin
Tuticorin
Alleppey
Total	...	39,386	274,742	5,275,159	3,800	496	508	24,742	480
Previously	...	189,453	343,105	7,617,488	2,716	432	...	37,672	2,645
Total lbs.	since 1-1-31.	13,912,824	228,839	617,847	12,982,647	6,516	928	508	62,414

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgd.	Price		District	Week ending July 16, 1931	January 1 to July 16, 1931	January 1 to July 16, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, July 16; and July 23, 1931, respectively)				N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Mukkoti Mudi	218	0 8½ (23)		S. India.	0 7·90	0 10·98	1 2·21
*Periakartamalai	276	0 8½ (16)		Ceylon...	a 0 8·48	b 1 0 54	c 1 3·39
Mukkoti Mudi	226	0 8½ (16)		Java ...	0 11·40	1 3·06	1 6·81
(a) <i>Nilgallaia</i> —		s. d.		Sumatra.	0 6·35	0 7·51	0 10·07
Mukkoti Mudi	218	0 8½ (23)		Nyassaland.	0 6·68	0 8·15	0 11·31
*Periakartamalai	276	0 8½ (16)		Total...	d 0 9·46	e 0 11·81	f 1 3·06
Mukkoti Mudi	226	0 8½ (16)		(b) Central Travancore—			
Gleamary	88	0 10½ (23)		District	Week ending July 23, 1931	January 1 to July 23, 1931	January 1 to July 23, 1930
Arnakal	143	0 9 (23)		N. India	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ladrum	90	0 9 (23)		S. India	0 8·34	0 10·94	1 2·18
Fairfield	83	0 8½ (16)		Ceylon ...	g 0 7·81	h 1 0 25	i 1 3·27
Twyford and Ashley Estates—				Java ...	0 11·99	1 2·90	1 6·72
White Hills	24	0 8 (16)		Sumatra	0 6·68	0 7·48	0 10·07
(c) <i>Kanam, Devans</i> —				Nyassaland.	0 6·57	0 8·09	0 11·29
Yellapatty	121	1 5½ (16)		Total ...	j 0 9·79	k 0 11·74	l 1 3·03
Periavurrai	84	1 4½ (23)		N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—			
Thenmallay	130	1 4 (23)			a 4,797	b 146,485	c 180,982
Nettigundi	97	1 3½ (23)			d 80,645	e 2,331,128	f 2,311,633
Thenmallay	152	1 3½ (16)			g 9,150	h 155,635	i 188,375
Chundavurrai	31	1 2½ (23)			j 81,627	k 2,412,755	l 2,379,351
Sevenmallay	115	1 1½ (23)		(B) RUBBER.—			
Devicolam	65	1 1½ (23)		The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, August 11, 1931, was 2½ d.			
Vagavurrai	132	1 0½ (23)		London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, August 8, 1931, were 81,711 tons, an increase of 376 tons on August 1, 1931, inventory.			
Do.	162	1 0½ (16)		Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, August 8, 1931, were 55,336 tons, an increase of 455 tons on August 1, 1931, inventory.			
Periavurrai	116	1 0½ (16)					
Gundumallay	137	1 0 (16)					
Do.	116	1 0 (23)					
(d) <i>Nilgiris</i> —							
Prospect	36	1 10 (16)					
Do.	152	1 4½ (23)					
Nonsuch	99	1 4 (23)					
Ibex Lodge	96	1 3 (23)					
Bhawani	87	1 2½ (16)					
Teramia	30	1 1 (16)					
Brooklands	88	0 11½ (23)					
Craigmore	150	0 9½ (16)					
Kodanaad	63	0 8½ (16)					
Craigmore	105	0 8 (23)					
Malloor	8½	0 8 (23)					
(e) <i>Nilgiri-Wynaad</i> —							
Seaforth	127	0 8½ (16)					

* Where invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.



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Thousand
Times
Greater
Wear
Resistance**

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Incomparable*

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**THE
DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD.,
MOUNT ROAD**

MADRAS

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, August 13, 1931

The better tone mentioned in our last fortnightly report was very short-lived, and the market once more relapsed to its usual dullness. Raw Rubber is now quoting at 2s. 3d. In sterling Rubbers, Malayalam alone slightly improved to 8s. 6d.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		s.	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£ 1	0	2 6	- 3d.
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£ 1	0	7 3	+ 6d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£ 1	0	8 6	- 3d.
4. Merlinian Rubber	...	2s.	0	1 3	-
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£ 1	1	5 6	-
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 6	-
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£ 1	0	2 6	-
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	2 6	-
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£ 1	0	11 9	- 1s. 9d
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	10 0	-

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	2
Cochins Rs. 15	...	8
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	17½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	Noml.
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	2
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	10	11
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	...	27
" (Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	17
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1
Periyars Rs. 10	3	4
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	3	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	75	80
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	11½

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on August 4, 1931, totalled 1,914,204 lbs. Quality was good and all fine teas realised much enhanced rates. NUWARA ELIYA AND MATORATA.—Selection was somewhat limited but quality was very good, competition was keen and much higher quotations resulted. HIGH GROWN.—Quality was better notably in the case of offerings from Uva district. Demand was strong especially for Broken Orange Pekoes while all grades of Uva teas were actively bid for and realised a considerably higher range of prices. MEDIUM GROWN.—Quality showed some improvement and all descriptions sold at dearer rates. Broken Orange Pekoes provided a feature, any teas with useful quality showing a very marked advance in price. LOW GROWN.—These supplies came to a somewhat irregular market, some well made Pekoes met with support, otherwise prices tended lower, a decline of 1 to 2 cents being established. FANNINGS AND DUSTS.—Good quality fannings and dusts met with very active demand and must be quoted considerably dearer, other kinds remained about steady at last rates.

South Indian Teas in Auction of July 28, obtained the following prices :—

Estates			Total lbs.	Average
Madupatty	...	...	10,868	37
Do.	...	...	15,931	33
Alampally	...	...	2,880	36
Chinnar	...	...	4,550	26
Macoy	...	...	6,205	22
Erunakutty	...	...	3,004	19

RUBBER.—About 157 tons were offered at Auction, held on July 30, 1931 which for the most part was composed of Off grades. There was an easier market but a good demand at the lower levels. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet opened at 12½ cents but eventually realised 12½ cents for a few lots showing a drop of 1½ cents on last week's prices. Fair and Off quality sheets were well supported but also showed a drop of 1½ cents while inferior quality sheet declined 1½ cents. Contract Crepe of which only a very small quantity was available opened at 12½ cents and later sold at 12½ cents—a decline of 1½ cents on previous rates. Off Crepe was in good demand but was 1½ cents easier and Mottled Brown sorts 1½ cents easier. All grades of Scrap Crepe were well competed for but may be quoted one cent down on previous prices, inferior earth sorts were about steady. A very small quantity of Scrap was on offer and this grade was about ½ of a cent easier.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

July 26, 1931 to August 8, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ...	0·78	0·90	1·68
2. Kalthuritty.	2·38	7·98	10·36	25. Kotagiri ...	1·18	0·93	2·11
3. Kallar Bdge.	5·47	11·77	17·24	26. Ootacamund	1·28	1·84	3·12
4. Koney	...	...	..	27. Yercaud ...	1·54	0·65	2·19
5. Pattanapura.	1·52	6·95	8·47	28. Mango Range	11·38	...	...
6. Kumbazha...	4·64	9·22	13·86	29. Devala ...	8·02	10·40	18·42
6a Peravanthan.	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	2·53	5·79	8·32
6b Aneikolam...	3·29	16·90	20·19	31. CALICUR ...	2·72	12·83	15·55
7. Peermade ...	5·79	...	..	32. Kuttiyadi ...	3·80	...	...
8. Twyford ...	9·03	26·76	35·79	33. Vayitri ...	4·43	...	...
9. V'periyar ...	...	17·44	...	34. Manantoddi	2·39	5·93	8·32
10. Kalaar ...	8·52	...	..	35. Billigiris ...	1·72	2·61	4·33
11. Chittuvurrai	0·41	2·25	2·66	36. Sidapur ...	...	...	...
12. Bodr'KANUR	0·08	0·13	0·21	37. Ghatted Hullia	...	...	...
13. COCHIN	4·75	6·80	11·55	38. Pollibetta ...	...	...	...
14. Mooply ...	5·45	6·93	12·38	39. Somwarpett.	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	...	...	..	40. Saklaspur ...	...	...	...
16. Mudis ...	4·04	...	..	41. Kadamanie ...	...	...	...
17. POLLACHIE	0·12	1·90	2·02	42. Balehonnur...	4·36	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	2·01	10·10	12·11	43. Merthisubghey.	5·37	12·46	17·83
19. Karapara ...	3·37	...	..	44. Kelagur ...	...	...	...
20. Pullengode..	...	...	..	45. Durgadbettta.	...	...	...
21. Nilambur ...	1·76	8·87	10·63	46. MANGALORE	9·25	21·48	30·73
22. Naduvattam	1·74	10·29	12·03	47. MADRAS ...	0·65	0·25	0·90
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	...	..	

4. Koney.—Rainfall fortnight ending August 1, 1931 = 8·41 in.

23. Nilgiri Peak.—Rainfall fortnight ending July 25, 1931 = 6·40 in.

41. Kadamanie.—Rainfall fortnight ending August 1, 1931 = 26·33 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 18]

August 29, 1931

[Price As. 8

*All communications to be addressed to the Editor
Post Box No. 155, MADRAS*

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EDITORIAL

THE Thirty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. was held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on August 17, and succeeding days.

The Chairman, Mr. C. R. T. Congreve, after declaring *The Annual General Meeting*, the Meeting open, addressed the large gathering present at Bangalore, and reviewed the workings of the Association during the past year.

In his address, the Chairman emphasised the critical stages through which all products, Tea, Coffee and especially Rubber, have been and still are passing, and pointed out that economy in Estate management should be exercised as one form of reducing expenditure.

With regard to the U.P.A.S.I. great reductions have been effected by the Executive Committee, and the estimate of expenditure for the current year shows a saving over the actual expenditure of the past year by, approximately, Rs. 60,000.

Economy, however, cannot be carried too far without impairing efficiency, and there comes a stage when the limit appears to have been reached.

Mr. F. E. James, the Political Secretary who has just returned to India after six months' absence, then made a most interesting speech in which he described various Parliamentary Meetings he had attended at Home and discussed generally the political situation as he saw it in India.

There is no doubt that the first-hand information and knowledge which Mr. James possesses, made a profound impression on his audience who showed their appreciation and interest throughout. It should also be stated that from many other points of view this Meeting proved a most remarkable one. Not only was it steered through, under the tactful and capable handling of Mr. Congreve, in record time, but no inharmonious note was struck at any stage, and delegates seemed imbued with a genuine

desire to get together and evolve from their discussions something that would prove of real benefit to the Association as a whole.

This fact is emphasized by the re-election of the Chairman and Executive Committee *en bloc* without a dissentient vote, and the Members of the United Planters' Association of S. India are to be congratulated upon their wisdom in entrusting the affairs of the Association to the same officials who have done such good work in the past year, thus enabling them to carry on unhampered at this present critical time.

The Resolutions passed at the above Meeting are published elsewhere in these pages, also the reports of the General Committee Meetings held on August 17 and 19, and that of the S. I. Planters' Benevolent Fund held on the latter date.

Our thanks are also due to Dr. Leslie Coleman, C.I.R., Director of Agriculture, Mysore, who, as usual, made a most interesting speech and addressed the Conference on *Stephanoderes hampei* and how to combat the disease, after which he gave some most instructive and interesting details of the work carried out at the Coffee Experimental Station, Mysore.

We are also much indebted to Mr. E. W. Christie, Acting Commissioner for India, Indian Tea Cess Committee, who journeyed down from Calcutta especially to address the Meeting and who gave some most informative facts relating to the work being done by the Tea Cess Committee especially with regard to S. India.

In conclusion we should like to give prominence to the remarks made by the Chairman regarding delegates who attend the Annual Meeting at Bangalore and who cannot do justice to their Associations owing to their coming with their hands tied. Unless these delegates have freedom to vote after hearing arguments on each side, then it appears obvious an 'impasse' would soon be reached because if the majority of delegates have fixed instructions and views before the Conference opens, what is the benefit of holding a Meeting, the sole object of which is to discuss the problems that have arisen during the year under review, and evolve a policy for the future which will be of benefit to the Association as a whole?

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NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

U. S. COFFEE CONSUMPTION

The United States consumed more coffee in the year ending June 30 than in any other year in history, according to the N. Y. Coffee and Sugar Exchange. Consumption in the United States, as estimated by deliveries, totalled 12,357,130 bags compared with 11,165,599 bags for the year ending June 30, 1930. Consumption had been gaining slowly but steadily until the year beginning July 1, 1930, and ending June 30, 1931. During that year, with the entire world in a business depression, coffee consumption showed an increase of approximately 10 per cent. The figures are in bags of 132 pounds each.

It is estimated that the *per capita* consumption of coffee for the year amounted to 13·2 pounds in the United States. This country consumes as much coffee as the rest of the world combined. The increase in coffee drinking is attributed to the great amount of advertising which is used by the coffee concerns of this country.

CEYLON TEA PROBLEMS

[MR. P. C. BURTON, Director of The London Press Exchange Ltd., writes as follows in the July issue of the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*.

We are reproducing his article as being of great interest to all Tea Planters and his suggestions and views on Advertising in America will no doubt evoke much discussion.]

Being a Trustee of the St. John Del Rey Estates and also an advertising man, I am doubly interested in Ceylon tea advertising and therefore in everything else which will bring back prosperity to Ceylon tea interests.

When visiting, early this year, the estate in which I am interested, I was invited to address the General Committee of the Ceylon Planters' Association on the subject of tea advertising. I see that my remarks were summarized on page 518 of THE TEA AND COFFEE TRADE JOURNAL for May.

Before enlarging upon the views I then expressed, perhaps some notes on my general impression regarding the production, marketing and selling of tea generally may be of interest. The Advertising Agency, of which I am a director, regards advertising as the very last link in the chain, and believes in seeing that production, management, organization and general policy are right before any advertising campaign is begun; so these remarks will not, I hope, be regarded as wholly irrelevant.

CHANGING TEA CONDITIONS

Frankly, I am not entirely happy about the situation in Ceylon. Many very serious problems concerning estate management, production, factory management of the marketing of tea have cropped up during the past 20 years, which demand the most intensive and concentrated study.

I do not wish to be misunderstood on this point, for I have the very greatest admiration for those pioneer planters who switched over from coffee to tea when the great coffee slump came, and who developed their tea estates themselves for many years until they were on a prosperous footing.

But a change has come about during the last few years, and Ceylon's tea industry is by no means so prosperous as it was. Naturally enough, the London directors, with years of successful direction behind them, feel that the present crisis is due to the disorganized world conditions of the war period, and to the subsequent period of general depression caused by over-production following the artificial post-War 'boom.'

To my mind, the truth is that conditions of tea culture, tea making and tea selling have changed. I will not attempt to deal with the purely technical changes which appear to have taken place in the methods of tea culture and tea making; those are matters which can be safely left in the hands of the capable men who are on the spot, without too much interference from directors who live thousands of miles from the seat of activity.

MARKETING AND SELLING PROBLEMS

But on the problems of marketing and selling tea, there is much to be learned by the administrative men in the tea trade, in relation to the great changes which have taken place in the world's markets and methods of selling during the past 25 years.

The growers and managers and local agents are not the men to dogmatize on these problems. It is the administrative men in London to whom the local people must look for guidance in matters of selling and marketing policy. But do they get it? How many London directors of Tea

Companies really study this complicated problem of selling ? How many of the London directors of Tea Companies have visited America, France, Germany, Sweden and other tea drinking countries, with the sole object of studying the markets and analyzing their potentialities ?

OLD METHODS BEING SCRAPPED

My point is that the methods of selling and buying tea have so changed in the past 25 years that it behoves those who are in responsible administrative posts to give just as much study to that phase of tea marketing which concerns the consumer and actual retailer, as they do to the bulk figures which are largely the concern of Mincing Lane, and tea brokers in general. The consumer—the woman with her marketing basket—is a more important factor in tea sales than all the Brokers in Mincing Lane put together.

Methods that were found successful thirty or forty years ago are being scrapped, and new methods of culture, factory management and marketing are taking their places.

The fact is, the tea business needs more and more active and highly paid administrative men (apart from the admirable permanent officials of its associations), who can give almost their whole time to such work. One can hardly expect men who are actually employed in the business to devote their time gratis to such activities—therefore *the trade must be prepared to subscribe sufficient to retain such men.*

Assuming now that such additional directive and administrative energy is available, the industry should be in a position to tackle the problem of markets and advertising.

INDIA AND CEYLON SHOULD JOIN

Obviously, the first necessity is an adequate cess. For the purpose of discussion, let us assume that Ceylon and India will join forces (the only logical thing to do) with the common object of advertising tea (generally—not any particular class of tea) and that India and Ceylon teas will contribute $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent per lb. on exported quantities.

Now $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per lb. on India and Ceylon tea exports comes to approximately £250,000. What is to be done with this sum, and where will it be spent ?

NO ABORTIVE AMERICAN CAMPAIGN

I understand that America is regarded as the greatest potential market and as possibly the most fruitful field to work on. There are 125 million people in the United States ; moreover, the consumption of tea per head of population is only .75 of a lb., whereas in England (with 46 million people) the consumption is 9.9 lb. per head—what an amazing argument in favour of America can be built on these figures without other co-related facts and considerations !

(A) First of all tea distribution in America is bad, and the trade attitude is entirely apathetic towards tea (coffee being the national drink). A large slice of the £250,000 would be necessary to secure trade goodwill alone and to establish a sound and efficient selling and merchandising organization.

(B) Even if the distribution were good, and the trade enthusiastic, the sum is not sufficient to cover so vast a country, and at the same time establish a complete selling and merchandising organization. Many American advertisers, with complete selling organizations, find it necessary to spend £200,000 annually on advertising their proprietary goods, and as much as £3,000,000 has been spent in one year on advertising one brand of

cigarettes. How can an appropriation of £250,000 for a *general* campaign compete with advertising on this scale?

(C) Even if such a sum were adequate for advertising an ordinary product, it is insufficient when considered in relation to its job, i.e. for changing the habits of a nation. Retail traders do not understand tea or the selling of tea. The American public does not understand tea, and therefore tea interests are faced with the tremendous task of changing the habits of an entire country consisting of 125 million people.

(D) It should be remembered that powerful coffee interests would have to be fought—coffee advertising in the States is already on a tremendous scale.

In other words, money spent on advertising tea in the United States, without adequate organization and preparation, will be almost entirely wasted. The only way to tackle the American market (as the industry may do later on) is to budget for an expenditure of something like £300,000 or £400,000 annually for a five years' intensive effort, and then keep it up with an expenditure of say £200,000 a year.

Ceylon tea interests will, therefore, do well to reconsider for the present the proposal to spend hard-earned money and what might well prove an abortive American campaign. What then is the alternative?

ADVERTISING ON EUROPE FIRST

To my mind, there is not the slightest doubt that an appropriation of £250,000 spent in the English market, plus the market of Northern Europe, would prove most fruitful. I am not sure that with such a sum a great deal might not also be done in India herself, and in Australia, New Zealand and Canada, all of which are tea drinking countries.

Here are some points to be noted regarding the advertising of tea in Great Britain and Ireland:—

(A) England, Ireland and Scotland are already tea drinking countries—and he is a foolish trader who neglects his best market!

(B) How long will these markets prove fertile if they are not regularly cultivated and tended?

(C) Competitive interests are already busy and individual advertisers of branded cocoas and coffees must be reckoned with, not to mention the advertisers of health-food drinks, which to-day play such a prominent part in the daily beverages of the British people.

(D) There is reason to suppose that China tea interests are making every effort to re-instate China tea in the English market—partly by means of what might be termed its 'snob' appeal. Of course there are those who genuinely prefer its flavour, and others with whom it might easily become an acquired taste, failing a campaign designed to focus attention on teas from India and Ceylon.

(E) The British public can buy tea in the remotest parts of the country, and the retail trade would be sympathetic towards a tea campaign—moreover, such important distributors as The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Brooke Bond, Lyons and Lipton have a very big interest in tea and would, I feel sure, render valuable aid.

(F) Saturation point has certainly not been reached in this market—there are countless examples of co-operative advertising campaigns which have proved highly successful in spite of the predictions, almost invariably put forward by those in the trade, that no success was possible as 'saturation point' had already been reached. I see no reason to believe that the case of tea should prove an exception to this experience.

My reasons for favouring Northern Europe as a market are very similar to the obvious reasons which lead some people to suggest America—big scope for increased consumption of tea, due to a fairly large population and a ridiculously small present consumption of tea.

But the objections to an American campaign do not apply to Northern Europe, for the following reasons:—

(A) Tea is more popular on the Continent than it used to be, and there are indications that a well-timed effort might easily convert large numbers of coffee drinkers to tea drinking.

(B) The trade does not play so important a part there as in such countries as England and America, and in any case is quite ready to co-operate in such a campaign as I have in mind—this applies not only to retail shops but also to restaurants, etc.

(C) There are some excellent national newspapers which are eagerly read by the populace and which cover a wide field. Advertisement rates are comparatively low.

DECLINING AMERICAN TEA IMPORTS

One last thought. The total imports of tea into the United States have declined by over 11 per cent since 1925, *in spite of a fairly aggressive advertising campaign* on the part of India interests, whereas imports into England and Northern Europe have increased (by nearly 40 per cent in England since 1913) *without the stimulus of any general advertising campaign*.

I am indeed anxious that anything I have said will not suggest that I am unconscious of the great work which is being done by some leaders of the tea industry in endeavouring to stimulate trade and find new markets for their products. I know a great deal of fine work is being done, but it must be noted that it is now 12 years since advertising tea was suggested as a means of trade stimulation: 12 years is too long to talk about doing a thing—it's time to get busy.

TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA—

13,010 packages of Java and Sumatra were offered in auction on Thursday. This moderate quantity was quickly disposed of in an active market, which generally showed an advance of a farthing to a halfpenny per lb.

CRYLON.—Offerings brought to auction on Tuesday and Wednesday comprised 41,23 packages.

The demand was brisk at both sales and this resulted in a better market for all grades. Where improvement of quality was met considerably higher prices were accordingly paid, while teas showing no change advanced $\frac{1}{4}d.$ and $\frac{1}{2}d.$

Leaf descriptions sold at 5d. to 2s. 3d., Broken Pekoe 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2ls. 1d., Broken Orange Pekoe 7d. to 2s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Rates again hardened for Common and Low Medium grades and, here and there, increases extended to $\frac{1}{2}d.$ for the latter sort.

—The Produce Markets Review dated 25—7—31.

THE SAN PAULO COFFEE SCHEME

The returns for the first month of the second year's operation of the scheme in connexion with the San Paulo Seven per cent. Coffee Realization Loan, 1930, indicate that the plan is continuing to work smoothly. For July the yield of the special tax of 3s. a bag on 'port entries' was £154,766, or at the rate of £1,917,192 per annum, which compares with a stipulated minimum to be received during the 12 months ending June 30, 1932, of £1,500,000. The port entries for the month were 1,007,254 bags, against 10,000,000 bags stipulated as the minimum for the year. Redemptions of Government coffee and planters' coffee were carried out according to schedule, the amount of the former being £62,500 and of the latter £112,500, these figures each representing one-twelfth of the minimum for the year. With regard to the export tax of 10s. a bag, the proceeds of which are being applied by the Federal Government in purchasing coffee for destruction, we are informed that the proceeds up to July 31, had been applied in the purchase for destruction of 674,857 bags of coffee, 382,655 bags of which had actually been destroyed. The Santos stock available on July 31 was 1,378,481 bags, the fixed minimum being 1,000,000 bags.—*The Times*.

KENYA COFFEE

GROWING DEMAND FROM NEW MARKETS

The Eastern African Dependencies' Trade and Information Office in London has received the following unofficial but reliable information from Kenya with regard to coffee conditions up to June 6:

This is the quiet season in the Coffee Industry, and there is little of interest to report. The rains generally have been adequate and good, but in the Thika-Makuyu area they have been short and some anxiety has been felt.

The Council of the Coffee Planters' Union has expressed its opposition to a Bill published for information in the 'Official Gazette' of April 21, 1931, mainly because it does not embody the principle that the cost of the Coffee Board should be borne jointly by the Industry and the Government. Its action has been approved at meetings of District Associations in many parts of the Colony. The Council of the Union, in view of the improbability of any assistance from Government, is now engaged in drafting proposals for a Co-operative Society whose objects and their proposals will be submitted to a public meeting of coffee planters, to be held in Nairobi in July.

The growing appreciation of the necessity of a more intensive and more scientific use of fertilisers is a matter of moment to the coffee planters, and the Coffee Planters' Union are negotiating with the Administration of the Kenya and Uganda Railway in order to try and obtain such freight rates from the coast as will stimulate the use of fertilisers, as experiments have shown that the volume of the export trade can be materially increased in this way, and it is felt that the railway will benefit materially if they give the greatest facilities to encourage this importation. It is early to anticipate the

coming season's prospects but, generally speaking, good crops should be obtained.

Each month shows a growth in the number of direct enquiries from other markets than London for East African coffees. At present there is no central organisation which can deal with bulk enquiries for typed coffee—mainly of B. C. qualities. One of the suggested activities of the proposed Co-operative Association is the provision of such a local market, and this experiment will be watched with great interest, because it may lead to the widening of some markets which have been restricted owing to the insecurity of continuity of supplies.

RECORD OUTTURN IN LAST CENSUS YEAR

According to a summary of the Agricultural Census Report for the year 1931 for the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya, the area under coffee increased by 647 acres between July 31, 1930, and February 28, 1931, and now stands at 96,689 acres. This area is made up as follows: Up to 3 years, 23,677 acres; 3-6 years, 22,561 acres; over 6 years, 50,451 acres. These figures show that over 50 per cent. of the total coffee in the Colony is now in the fully bearing stage.

The production of Coffee during the year ended February 28, 1931, totalled 250,919 cwts. Clean Coffee, and 26,806 cwts. Mbuni—a record outturn for the Colony, the previous highest, i.e., that of 1927-28 being 213,671 cwts. Clean Coffee, and 32,621 cwts. Mbuni.

The Produce Markets Review dated 25-7-31.

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION

MARKING OF THE MAP OF INDIA 'EMBLEM' ON TEA CHESTS PRIOR TO DESPATCH FROM THE GARDENS

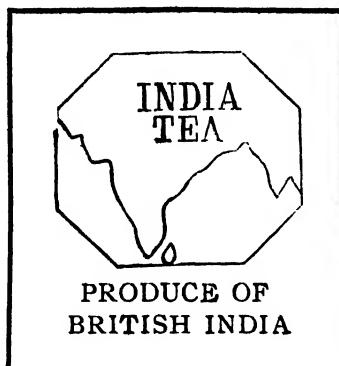
It is doubtless within the recollection of all members that, in the early months of 1928, the Map of India 'Emblem' was designed and brought into use in America, by the Director of the Indian Tea Bureau, New York, as an identification mark on packages containing India tea.

2. The 'Emblem' has since been continuously employed as a prominent India tea advertising medium in American newspapers, magazines and trade journals, but recent advices from London go to show that shippers of tea to America are now stencilling the 'Emblem' on their tea chests, thereby identifying India tea prominently with the contents of these packages.

3. In connection with this development in regard to the 'Emblem' advertising possibilities, it has been suggested to the General Committee, who entirely agree, that, if the emblem could be marked on all packages before leaving the gardens, this practice would provide a valuable advertisement for India tea all over the World.

4. The recommendation therefore is that the Map of India Emblem should be stencilled inside an octagonal frame on one side of the chests,

and that the words 'Produce of British India' should appear below the 'Emblem' as follows :—



5. The Committee trust that all members will co-operate in making full use of this valuable advertisement for India teas.

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

CALCUTTA,

August 17, 1931.

A. C. DANIEL,

Asst. Secretary.

-: o :-

TEA ADVERTISING DEVELOPMENTS

During the last few months a lively correspondence has been going on between the India and Ceylon Tea Associations in London and the Tea Association of the United States as to the possibilities of a joint India-Ceylon advertising campaign in the United States.

Although conflicting reports are plentiful, it is evident that certain interests have been promoting the idea of a combined India and Ceylon campaign, based upon the prospective Ceylon tea cess which is expected to materialize this month.

In May the Ceylon and India Associations inquired of the Tea Association of the United States as to what sum the distributing trade in America might be prepared to contribute to a pool designed to advertise tea in general. The Tea Association is understood to have answered, 'nothing.' The reasons for this have been variously stated as the impossibility of getting all the dealers to join in the scheme and the unwillingness of the limited membership of the Tea Association to assume the full burden.

Again, it has been pointed out that as India's funds may be spent only for advertising India tea the Tea Association could not lend itself to such an enterprise because it has among its members a number that are interested in Japan, Formosa, China and Java teas and who might object. It is not known if there will be similar restrictions on Ceylon's cess but it

doesn't seem likely that she would agree to spend her funds in an advertising pool where India would be mentioned and Ceylon not.

It is understood that Mr. L. Beling, India's American tea commissioner, would like to direct a combined India-Ceylon campaign in America and that he has a plan for joint publicity at the coming Chicago Fair. It will be recalled that Mr. Beling made his American debut at the Chicago Exposition of 1893, where he was attached to the Ceylon commission. In the Ceylon campaign of 1906-08, Mr. Beling was the tea expert to the Commissioner.

In 1928, Mr. Beling and the late Carl Schutler, in consultation with others, prepared a plan for advertising India tea designed to unhorse Sir Charles Higham, who was then directing India's tea publicity in America. Mr. Beling successfully 'sold' the idea of a map of India campaign with demonstrations, first to Leonard M. Holden, manager of the American branch of McLeod and Company, Calcutta, and later to Major Norman McLeod, vice-chairman of the Indian Tea Association (London), who came to the United States to examine into the situation.

Major McLeod recommended Mr. Beling for the post of Commissioner and Mr. Beling was invited to London. At this time the Tea Association of the United States declined to endorse Mr. Beling's candidacy, but he got the appointment, nevertheless. Subsequently, after the new Indian tea campaign was successfully launched here, Mr. Beling joined the Tea Association and in January of this year he was elected to the Board of Directors.

Many tea men are of the opinion that it would be unwise for Ceylon to join up with India or any kind of co-operative tea campaign in America until she has done a certain amount of advertising for Ceylon tea, designed to make the trade and consumer Ceylon tea conscious. It has been intimated that Ceylon may go it alone for a while.

The Tea Association continues to urge a general campaign for tea as tea and says it cannot sponsor any scheme which does not embrace all kinds of tea. However, it is willing, if the India and Ceylon tea associations decide on a joint campaign for black tea, to use its good offices to have Java join.

The Tea Association says unless a fund of at least \$1,000,000 per annum be secured, no material results can be achieved. Mr. Gerald Larkin advocates \$2,000,000 per annum for at least three years.

The group of tea packers known as The Tea Club has also been active recently. At a meeting held in New York early in June plans were discussed for 'putting tea before the public in a different manner than heretofore.'

The subject of soliciting funds from the producing countries and the American trade was also discussed. The feeling was that eventually the packers would have to pay and that they would be willing to do so only if the campaign be made in behalf of better grade teas.

The feeling continues to grow that any co-operative campaign to advertise tea should be managed by a Joint Tea Trade Committee composed of representatives from the importers, and all the important factors in tea distribution, such as tea packers, wholesale grocers, chain grocers, delivery route dealers, and retail grocers.—*The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*,

**UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA
(INCORPORATED)**

Thirty-Eighth Annual General Meeting

RESOLUTIONS

FIRST DAY—MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 1931

Afternoon

Executive Committee Report

1. Proposed from the Chair:

'That the Executive Committee's Report for the year ending March 31, 1931, be and is hereby adopted.'

Carried unanimously.

Accounts

2. Proposed from the Chair:

'That the Accounts for 1930-31 be adopted.'

Carried unanimously.

Roads

5. Proposed by Mr. P. W. Davis and seconded by Mr. H. J. Walmsley:

'This Association recommends to the Imperial Government, through the Government of Madras, that Government give a grant of Rs. 50,000 towards the first cost of the Nelliampathy Ghat Road, which Road will serve considerable interests in British India as well as those in Cochin State.'

Carried.

6. Proposed by Mr. R. M. Nicolls and seconded by Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones:

'That the U.P.A.S.I. represent to the Government of Madras the injustice of the present burden of taxation now placed upon motor vehicles used for commercial and estate purposes under the new Motor Vehicles Act.'

Carried unanimously.

7. Proposed by Mr. R. M. Nicolls and seconded by Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones:

'That the Motor Vehicles Act or the Local Boards Act be so amended as to allow for registration and taxation of vehicles other than mechanical.'

Carried.

The Political Situation

9. Proposed by Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls and seconded by Mr. E. W. Fowke:

'This Meeting of the United Planters Association of Southern India views with grave concern the apparent indifference displayed by the

Government of India to the seditious and inflammatory speeches which are being delivered by Extremists throughout the country, and which are one of the main causes of the recent increase in anarchical crime, and urges the Viceroy and his Executive Council to take stern measures against those who thus incite others to deeds of violence.'

Carried unanimously.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1931

Morning

Articles of Association

10. Proposed by Mr. Eric Johnson and seconded by Mr. H. J. Walmesley :

'That the Articles of Association be so altered as to allow for any interest or Company voting on its own acreage basis at the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I., District representatives voting for those not otherwise represented.'

Lost.

12. Proposed by Mr. G. R. Strachan and seconded by Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls :

'That a Sub-Committee be appointed to go into the whole question as outlined by the Anamallai Association's Resolution and that such Sub-Committee consider the possibility of reorganization more or less on the lines of the Indian Tea Association.'

Lost.

Rules

13. Proposed from the Chair :

'That this Meeting confirm the amendments to the U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department Rules passed by the General Committee on August 17, 1931.'

Carried.

14. Proposed by Mr. H. J. Walmesley and seconded by Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell :

'That this meeting confirm the following rule passed by the General Committee on August 17, 1931 :—

When declaring acreage for any one year, District Associations may reduce their previously declared area on account of areas actually abandoned. The word 'abandoned' shall be taken to mean :

(a) Any area from which no crop is harvested, and (b) on which no agricultural operations are conducted during, that financial year in both cases.'

Carried.

Copper Sulphate, etc.

18. The following amendment was proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke and seconded by Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls :—

'In view of the heavy fall in the costs of raw materials, the U.P.A.S.I. be asked to take up the question of a reduction in the prices charged for Copper Sulphate, Block Tin and Lead for packing materials.'

Carried.

20. Proposed by Mr. W. K. M. Langley and seconded by Mr. E. W. Fowke :

'That in view of the importance of encouraging the suppression of Agricultural Pests, this Association do reiterate its request that Copper Sulphate imported into the Madras Presidency for agricultural purposes be exempted from Customs Duty.'

Carried.

Tea Import Duty

22. Proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke and seconded by Mr. C. L. Greig :

'That this Association strongly urges the Government of India to increase the present import duty on Tea into India from 20 per cent *ad valorem* to 30 per cent, keeping the Tariff values as at present ; this duty to be a temporary protective measure to help the Tea industry of India through its present grave crisis.'

Carried.

Rubber—Remission of Assessment

23. Proposed by Mr. H. J. Walmesley and seconded by Mr. H. B. MacPherson :

'That whereas the Travancore Government has recognized the necessity, in the present economic crisis, of relieving the burdens of taxation on rubber estates by a remission of land tax, this Association requests the Madras and Cochin Governments to grant similar relief as early as possible.'

Carried.

Labour Department Director's Report

24. Proposed from the Chair :

'That the Report of the Director of the Labour Department for the year ending March 31, 1931, be adopted.'

Carried.

25. Proposed by Mr. J.H. Cantlay and seconded by Mr. G.R. Strachan :

'That this Association records its thanks to the Director of the Labour Department for the very energetic manner he has tackled the question of reduction in costs of his department with such satisfactory result.'

Carried.

Labour Department

29. The following was proposed from the Chair :

'That the Executive Committee be requested to work out a scheme whereby, at the Annual General Meeting of the Association and Meetings of the General Committee, meetings of representatives of districts subscribing to the Labour Department may be held to consider and discuss the work of the Department and generally act as an Advisory Committee.'

Carried.

30. Proposed by Mr. C. L. Greig and seconded by Mr. P. W. Davis :

'That the Executive Committee be asked to draft an amendment to the Labour Department rules to the effect that from next settlement no coolie debt of more than Rs. 10 per head can be collected through the Labour Department.'

Carried.

Tea Scientific Department

32. Proposed by Mr. E. N. Pinks and seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson :
 ' That the U.P.A.S.I. Tea Scientific Department be closed down on a maintenance basis until such time as affiliation can be arranged with the Ceylon Tea Research Institute.'

Lost.

33. Proposed by Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. H. J. Walmesley :

' That the Scientific Department be continued under the control of the Executive Committee, but the actual administration of the Station to be in the hands of the Senior Scientific Officer in conjunction with the Sub-Committee as recommended in the Cameron Committee report, viz., the active and the Member-in-waiting for tea on the Executive Committee, and one other with experience in tea to be nominated by the Chairman of the U.P.A.S.I., but preferably one holding or who has held office on the Executive Committee.'

Carried.

34. Proposed by Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. H. J. Walmesley :

' That the Executive Committee ask the Government of Madras to allow the Director of Agriculture to act on this Committee if he is willing, or failing him to nominate any other agricultural scientist they may choose.'

Carried.

(Afternoon)

Coffee Scientific Station

35. Proposed by Mr. W. K. M. Langley and seconded by Mr. C. L. Greig :

' That this Association strongly condemns the growing practice of shipping coffee from other Districts under the description of Nilgiri Plantation thereby directly damaging the reputation of all East India Coffee especially among consumers in Europe. That this Association take steps in conjunction with Curers and Exporting Houses to put a stop to this practice.'

36. Proposed by Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes and seconded by Mr. C. L. Greig :

' That the question of an allotment from the accumulated funds of the U.P.A.S.I. for the purpose of experimenting with artificial drying of coffee be referred back to District Associations concerned in this product, and if they unanimously agree on the need for these experiments, the Executive Committee be empowered to spend a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,500 for this purpose.'

Carried.

Stephanoderes

37. Proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke and seconded by Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls :

' That this Association thanks the Imperial Government for its action in having prohibited the importation of raw coffee from places

outside India, thereby greatly lessening the danger to the existence of the industry from Stephanoderes and other pests.'

Carried.

Government of Mysore Advisory Committee

38. Proposed from the Chair :

'This Association records with regret the resignation of Mr. E. H. Young from the Government of Mysore Advisory Committee for the Mysore Government Coffee Experimental Station and thanks him for the work he has done on their behalf and nominates the Active Member for Coffee on the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy.'

Carried.

Budget 1931-1932

40. Proposed from the Chair :

'That Rs. 2,526 be added to the Budget on account of Secretary's and Director's Pay.'

Carried.

THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1931

(Morning)

Tea Propaganda in India

42. Proposed by Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. J. H. Cantlay :

'That the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government be approached to have the Adulteration of Food Act made applicable to the whole Presidency and that tea and coffee be included in the schedule of foods coming within the Act and further that the attention of the Minister concerned be drawn to the refusal of the authorities at Madura and Guntur to take such action as is necessary to enforce this Act. It is further requested that all cases of suspected adulterated tea or coffee stocks should be sealed up pending the report of the Public Analyst and in the event of the report proving the articles to be adulterated, all stocks should be destroyed.'

Carried unanimously.

43. Proposed by Mr. J. H. Cantlay and seconded by Mr. J. H. Ireland Jones :

'That the U.P.A.S.I. approach the Indian Tea Association with a view to their seeing that propaganda in India be not hampered in any way for lack of funds.'

Carried.

44. Proposed by Mr. J. H. Cantlay and seconded by Mr. H. J. Walmesley :

'That the Mysore and Cochin Governments, through the Planting Members of the Legislative Councils, be asked to introduce a Food Adulteration Act on the lines of that in force in the Madras Presidency.'

Carried.

Note.—Resolutions and amendments Nos. 3, 4, 8, 11, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 26, 27, 28, 31, 39 and 41 were, with the permission of the Meeting, withdrawn.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Proceedings of a Meeting of the General Committee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India (Incorporated) held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Monday the 17th August, 1931, commencing at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

Present :

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve	... <i>Chairman.</i>
" R. N. W. Jodrell	... }
" A. E. J. Nicolls...	... } <i>Members of the Executive Committee.</i>
" H. J. Walmesley	... }
" H. S. Cameron ...	... <i>Member-in-waiting.</i>
" F. E. James, M. L. C.	... <i>Planting Member.</i>
Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O. B. E.,	
v. d., ...	... <i>Secretary.</i>
Lt.-Comdr. E. L. Hill	... <i>Asst. Secretary.</i>

And the following

*Associations**represented by*

Anamalais	... Messrs. Eric Johnson & J. H. Ireland Jones.
C. Travancore	... Mr. J. H. Cantlay.
Coorg ...	... Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls & Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.
Kanan Devans	... Messrs. G. R. Strachan and E. N. Pinks.
Mysore ...	... Messrs. L. Newcome and E. W. Fowke.
Nelliampathies	... Mr. P. W. Davies.
Nilgiris ...	... Mr. C. L. Greig.
Nilgiri-Wynaad	... Messrs. R. M. Nicolls & A. N. Scott-Hart.
Shevaroys	... Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes.
S. Travancore	... Mr. H. J. Walmesley.
West Coast	... Mr. H. J. Walmesley.
Wynaad	... Messrs. R. N. W. Jodrell & I. W. Finlayson.

Under instructions from the Chair, the Secretary read the notice convening the Meeting.

Chairman.—Gentlemen, you have now to confirm the proceedings of the last Meeting. They have been circulated. Has any one anything to ask about them. May I take it that you confirm the proceedings. *Carried.*

Subscriptions.—The *Chairman* said—You will remember that at the last Annual General Meeting a resolution was passed whereby the surplus balances belonging to the various Departments instead of going to the General Funds of the Association were to be credited at the end of each year or at the end of each half-year to the separate Departments.

According to the revised Budget figures it seems likely that the following balances at least will be at the credit of the Departments on the 31st March next:—

Tea	...	...	...	Rs. 8,526
Coffee	...	...	...	„ 4,250
Rubber	...	...	...	„ 4,289
Minor Pro. ...	...	...	„	1,837
Labour Dept.	...	...	„	3,085

This ought to mean the adjustment of the final quarter subscription. It is very difficult to say exactly what these of course will be at the end of the year, so the figures now given you are only approximate. What I would ask you, Gentlemen, to do is to consider and give us some definite instructions as to how much you consider the last quarter cess should be reduced by. With regard to Rubber I think it is extremely probable that the Rubber Station will be closed down and there will be no subscription to be called for and it would have to be kept only on a maintenance basis and that the Rubber industry should have only sufficient funds to enable them to carry on. I should like to hear if any body has any remarks to make about these balances.

Mr. Newcome.—Might I ask whether the Coffee Scientific Fund is to be shown separately?

Chairman.—Yes, it was agreed last year that all credit balances of last year were to be used for adjustment of subscription. The amount standing or the probable amount standing at the credit of the Coffee Scientific Department is Rs. 4,250 which sum can be used for reducing the Coffee Scientific Cess for the second half year.

Mr. Newcome.—I understood the Coffee Scientific Department balance amounted to over Rs. 60,000.

Chairman.—It was only since last year the surplus balances of Departments were carried forward, and all the previous amounts at the disposal of each product were merged into the General Fund. The figure mentioned by Mr. Newcome was the total "Coffee" share in the accumulated funds since 1919, and not the Coffee Scientific Department only.

Mr. J. H. Cantlay.—Might I ask what subscriptions will be required for the final quarter for Tea?

Chairman.—I am afraid I have not worked it out, but it will probably be one anna less for the last quarter. What I would propose, Gentlemen, is that I ask our Secretary to work out the actual figures of what the subscription will be for each Department and these figures are presented to you at the Committee Meeting next Thursday and it is for you to say whether it is acceptable or not.

Mr. Newcome.—The Mysore Planters' Association have a resolution coming up that the whole of the Scientific Department funds should be shown separately. When is this to be brought up? Is it now or later?

Chairman.—On Tuesday, under 'Coffee'. Does it meet with your approval. Those in favour, those against. (*Carried*).

Chairman.—The next item is the order of business at the General Meeting. I think it is better the sooner we get back the better—it is an expensive matter for our parent Association and for ourselves. The Executive Committee yesterday went through the time table, and if you will all look at that I will tell you what to do, and I hope it will meet with your approval.

The various alterations in the Agenda were then read out so that the whole programme was to be finished by noon on Wednesday.

The Chairman then asked the permission of the Meeting to delete the items No. 13—Affiliated Associations; No. 23—Drawback on Tea Chests; and No. 30—Scientific Department (General).

Chairman.—The next item, Gentlemen, is Rules—U.P.A.S.I. Labour Rules. The amendments to these rules were circulated to all District Associations some months ago and were approved of by the Executive Committee, and it is for the General Committee to pass these amendments. The declaration of the abandoned areas should be considered by the General Committee as well as the other Rule proposed by the S. Travancore P.A. They can however either be passed by the General Committee or left over to be considered at the General Meeting only. This also applies to Wynnaad resolution with reference to the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department Rule 14. The General Committee are the people to pass and alter the Rules, and I should like to know whether it is to be done now or left for the General Meeting.

Mr. Murland.—It would probably be quicker to do it now.

Chairman.—Yes, if all the delegates are now ready to consider it. There is one going to be proposed by the Executive Committee which reads as follows :—

' When declaring acreage for any one year, District Associations may reduce their previously declared area on account of areas actually abandoned. The word "abandoned" shall be taken to mean any revenue bearing area from which no crop is harvested and immature areas on which no agricultural operations are conducted during that financial year in both cases.'

That resolution was to be brought up by the Executive Committee at the General Meeting, but it can equally be done now. The S. Travancore P.A. resolution reads as follows :—

' That Proprietors and Companies with Tea and Rubber areas, whose whole Rubber acreage is definitely closed down owing to the present depression, be allowed to continue to subscribe to the U.P.A.S.I. on their Tea area only until such time as they bring their Rubber area back into tapping.'

Mr. Walmsley.—Might I ask if the Executive Committee's proposal goes through, the S. Travancore P.A. will withdraw their resolution.

Chairman—I believe Mr. Walmsley is bringing up the resolution on behalf of the Executive Committee. It is actually in your name and I think Mr. Jodrell will second it.

Mr. R. M. Nicolls.—I should like, on behalf of my Association, to know if the 12 months' notice is applicable if this new Rule comes into force or not.

Chairman.—I think this is only revising the acreage and not a resignation, so I do not think the 12 months' notice is required.

A discussion then ensued in which Messrs. Newcome, Travers Drapes, Cantlay, Fowke and the Chairman took part.

Chairman.—Has any body anything more to say? I propose to put the resolution, which is proposed by Mr. Jodrell and seconded by Mr. Walmsley.

Carried.

Chairman.—Have I your permission to withdraw the S.T.P.A. resolution. The resolution was withdrawn.

Chairman.—Now Wynnaad have a resolution in connection with Labour Rule which reads as follows :—

'That Rule 14 of the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Rules be amended so as to exclude from the definition of a Planting District any such District where the estates situated therein have ceased to function in employing their usual labour force.'

Mr. Walmesley.—With your permission we should like to have it left over to the General Meeting.

Chairman.—Gentlemen, you now have to confirm the amendments to the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department Rules which have been approved by the Executive Committee. They were brought up at the last General Committee Meeting, but as there had been no time for District Associations to consider them, the matter was postponed. The amendments were then put to the meeting and carried.

Chairman.—The next item on the Agenda is to elect a new Member. Messrs. Shaw Wallace & Co. have been proposed as a member of the Association. Their proposal was provisionally accepted by the Executive Committee, but their actual election has to be made by the General Committee. Those in favour of Messrs. Shaw Wallace & Co. becoming members—those against.

Carried.

The Dominions Potash Supply Co. joined the Association last year. They have now transferred their business in India to the Overseas Export Co. It will therefore be necessary to elect the new Company as members of this Association in place of the Dominions Potash Supply Co. Will those in favour hold up their hands that the Overseas Export Co. in place of the Dominions Potash Supply Co. be members of the Association.

Carried.

The *Chairman* closed the meeting.

**Proceedings of a Meeting of the General Committee held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore,
on Wednesday the 19th August, 1931**

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting and then called the roll.

The following were present :—

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve	... <i>Chairman.</i>
Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell	... .
Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls	... } <i>Active Members.</i>
Mr. H. J. Walmesley	... }
Mr. H. S. Cameron	" } <i>Members-in-waiting.</i>
Mr. E. H. A. Travers Drapes	... } <i>Secretary.</i>
Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock	... <i>Asst. Secretary.</i>
Lt.-Comdr. E. L. Hill	

And the following representatives of Members :—

Anamalais ..	Messrs. J. H. Ireland Jones and Eric Johnson.
Central Travancore ..	Mr. J. H. Cantlay.
Coorg ..	Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.
Kanan Devans ..	Messrs. G. R. Strachan and E. N. Pinks.
Mundakayam ..	Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
Mysore ..	Messrs. L. Garrett, L. Newcome and E. W. Fowke.
Nelliampathies ..	Mr. P. W. Davis.
Nilgiris ..	Mr. C. L. Greig.
Nilgiri-Wynaad ..	Messrs. R. M. Nicolls and A. N. Scott Hart.
Shevaroys ..	Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes.
South Travancore ..	Mr. H. J. Walmsley.
West Coast ..	Mr. H. J. Walmsley.
Wynaad ..	Messrs. I. W. Finlayson and R. N. W. Jodrell.
Visitor ..	Mr. H. D. Patch.

Ballot papers were then handed out for the election of the new Executive Committee, and the following were elected unanimously for the current year :—

<i>Product.</i>	<i>Active Members.</i>	<i>Members-in-waiting.</i>
Tea ...	Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell ...	Mr. H. S. Cameron.
Coffee ...	Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls ...	Mr. L. Newcome.
Rubber ...	Mr. H. J. Walmsley ...	Mr. H. B. Macpherson.

Mr. H. B. Macpherson then asked the meeting whether he could bring up the question of the Upasi Buying Agency and suggested that the annual subscription of Rs. 10 should be discontinued owing to hard times and planters' cost of living, but the meeting was against his proposal.

The Chairman addressed the meeting and suggested that District Associations should know more about the working of the Association which could be arranged by informing the General Committee of what was taking place between Meetings. He also stated that delegates to Bangalore should be allowed a free hand, and should be given fuller powers at the Annual Meeting. Beforehand they only knew their side of the question, and the discussions held at the meeting from all points of view might materially affect their decisions.

The Meeting then terminated.

REPORT OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND. (INCORPORATED).

Proceedings of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund (Incorporated) held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore

The Chairman asked whether any member had any objection to this Meeting being brought forward earlier than it was tabled. No one having any objection, the Meeting was proceeded with.

The Meeting was held at 11-30 a.m. on Wednesday the 19th,

Present.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve	...	...	<i>Chairman.</i>
Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock	...	...	<i>Secretary.</i>
Lt.-Comdr. E. L. Hill	...	...	<i>Asst. Secretary.</i>

And the following representatives of members :—

Annamalais	...	Messrs. J. H. Ireland Jones and Eric Johnson.
Cen. Travancore	..	Mr. J. H. Cantlay.
Coorg	...	Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland.
Kanan Devans	...	Messrs. G. R. Strachan and E. N. Pinks.
Mundakayam	...	Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
Mysore	...	Messrs. L. Garrett, L. Newcome and E. W. Fowke.
Nelliampathies	...	Mr. P. W. Davis.
Nilgiris	...	Mr. C. L. Greig.
Nilgiri-Wynaad	...	Messrs. R. M. Nicolls and A. N. Scott Hart.
Shevaroys	...	Capt. E. H. A. Travers Drapes.
South-Travancore	...	Mr. H. J. Walmsley.
West Coast	...	
Wynaad	...	Messrs. I. W. Finlayson and R. N. W. Jodrell.
Messrs. H. S. Cameron and H. D. Patch	...	<i>Visitors.</i>

Under instructions from the Chairman the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting, which was held on the 22nd August, 1930, having been published in full in the Book of Proceedings for that year, were taken as read and confirmed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1931

The Secretary read the following report :—

The total subscriptions and donations received during the year 1930-31 were Rs. 8,455-4-0, which is about Rs. 500 less than last year and Rs. 2 000 less than the year before that. The actual number of planters subscribing to the Fund increased by four, but still there are only 376 subscribers out of a possible 600 to 700 planters, who are members of District Associations. The fall in receipts is due to smaller donations. Revenue is likely to decrease still more, as several estates have notified their intention of discontinuing their subscriptions in the new year.

Other receipts were Rs. 1,330-11-0 from the Buying Agency and Rs. 5,080-14-4 interest on investments, making the total income for the year Rs. 14,866 13-4.

During the year assistance granted amounted to Rs. 13,051-14-8, or about Rs. 700 more than the year before and is the highest sum disbursed in any year since the start of the Fund.

Securities had to be written down by Rs. 1,098-7-0 owing to depreciation in market value and remaining expenses amounted to Rs. 45-2-6.

The total of the Fund at the 31st March, 1931, was Rs. 1,17,899-12-1.

The Chairman then addressed the Meeting and pointed out the seriousness of the position during the current year and stated that the question of starting a 'one day pay' fund would have to be seriously considered.

He advised the delegates on their return to discuss this with the remaining 300 planters who have not subscribed during the current year.

Mr. L. Newcome then stated that with regard to the 300 non-supporters, it was probably a matter of forgetfulness and suggested that the Secretary should write all planters asking them if their subscriptions could be collected by V. P. P. or Banker's order.

The Chairman moved the following resolution :—

' That the Secretary's Report be adopted.'

Carried.

ACCOUNTS 1930-1931

The Chairman pointed out that all present had copies of the Accounts for 1930-1931 and proposed :—

' That the Accounts for 1930-1931 be passed and adopted.'

Carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairman explained that, under the rules of the Fund, it was necessary to appoint an Executive Committee, and proposed :—

' That the Executive Committee of the U. P. A. S. I. be the Executive Committee of the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund, with all powers of the General Committee except those of making, altering or repealing By-laws.'

Carried.

The Chairman asked whether there was any further business which members wished to bring forward.

Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell then suggested that the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund business should be placed on the Agenda of every meeting of District Associations.

Mr. J. H. Canllay suggested that it was the younger planters who were the non-supporters of the Benevolent Fund, and appeals would be of very little use in obtaining subscriptions from them.

Mr. H. J. Walmsley then suggested that the Secretaries of District Associations should take the matter up instead of the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., as was suggested, and his proposal met with universal approval.

It was thereupon decided that the whole matter should be referred back to District Association Secretaries by the delegates on their return and strong appeal should be made to obtain subscriptions.

There being no further business before the meeting, the Chairman declared it closed.

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PLANTERS' SPORTS AT BANGALORE

Russian Fleece Tournament.—This took place as usual at the West End Hotel and the event was won by Messrs. P. G. Tipping and Cheesley (Coorg) who defeated Mysore represented by Messrs. Scott-Hart and Garrett in the Final.

The number of entries was disappointing, only six districts competing and the following is the progress of the various Rounds :—

Coorg beat UPASI, Wynad beat Nelliampathies, Mysore beat Munda-kayam and Central Travancore.

Coorg beat Wynnaad. Final: Coorg beat Mysore.

The winners were presented with a pair of very nice billiard cues in cases, kindly given by Messrs. Spencer & Co., Limited.

Dewar Golf Challenge Cup.—The Committee and Members of the Bangalore Golf Club very kindly allowed us to play this Competition on their links. Entries were exceedingly poor and it is hoped that next year delegates and visitors will make a point of entering for this Competition, as unless more enthusiasm is shown, it may very likely be allowed to lapse. The following are the results of the various Rounds:—

DEWAR GOLF CHALLENGE CUP

	1st Round.	2nd Round.	3rd Round.	Final.
E. Johnson (6) R. M. Nicolls (10)	{ Nicolls at 13th	{ Nicolls 4 & 3	{ Nicolls W.O.	
L. Newcome (8)	Bye			
P. Raymond (12) G. R. Strachan (6)	Bye Bye	{ Raymond W.O.		{ Hill 4 & 2
F. E. James (8) H. B. Macpherson (10)	Bye Bye	{ McPher- son 5 & 4	{ Hill 3 and 2 (after replay)	
E. L. Hill (2) J. H. Cantlay (10)	Bye Bye	{ Hill 4 & 3		

Figures in brackets are handicaps allotted for Bangalore 12 hole course.

Rules.—Bangalore Golf Club. Match play full difference of handicaps.

U. P. A. S. I. NOTES

NOTIFICATION No. R.O.C. 471/sc. 69 OF 31-32

In connection with the issue of certificates of origin for *Mysore Coffee beans or seeds* imported to British India and other parts, instances have come to the notice of the Department of Agriculture, Mysore, that consignees of raw coffee beans or seeds do not mention in the certificate of origin the name of Estate or Estates of Mysore Province from which they got the supply. In the absence of this information it is difficult to sign such certificates.

It is therefore notified for the information of those that ship *Mysore Coffee beans or seeds to British India or other parts* that the consignees should invariably record the name of Estate or Estates in the Mysore Province from which they originally obtained the beans or seeds.

Certificates of origin for Mysore Coffee that do not contain the required information are liable to be returned to the parties by the Counter-signing Officer who has been instructed not to countersign them.

LESLIE C. COLEMAN,
Director of Agriculture in Mysore,

CHEAPER HOMeward PASSAGES

ANCHOR LINE REDUCTIONS

In common with other large Shipping firms who have realized the needs of the public for comfortable travel at a lower cost than the luxuries of first class entail, the Anchor Line, who were the pioneers of cheap Home passages to England, have decided to convert a large number of first-class cabins in the *California* and *Tuscania* into Tourist cabins, for which special rates are quoted.

They furthermore announce an attractive reduction in the first-class Homeward, Season and Off-season fares, and these concessions should make an immediate appeal to many of our readers who, in these hard times, will appreciate the efforts made by this Line to ensure a comfortable and happy voyage at a minimum expense, and who will find in the excellence of the accommodation, catering and service all that a reasonable man or woman requires.

DISTRICT NOTES

MUNDAKAYAM

Minutes of the 2nd Quarterly General Meeting of the Mundakayam Planters' Association held in the Mundakayam Club on Wednesday, July 29, 1931, at 3 P.M.

Present :

Messrs. R. M. Saywell (*Chairman*), I. N. James, R. A. McKay, R. Harley, N. B. Hartley, C. L. McLean, A. D. Vincent, H. B. Macpherson, A. J. Mitchell and O. J. Egan-Wyer (*Honorary Secretary*), and R. A. Taylor (*Visitor*).

Notice calling the Meeting.—The Honorary Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the Committee of Management Meeting held on June 20, be confirmed.

Carried.

Appointment of Delegate to U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting.—The Chairman proposed that Mr. H. B. Macpherson be appointed Delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I.

Carried.

AGENDA FOR U.P.A.S.I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

It was resolved that the Resolutions to be brought before the U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting be taken individually and our Delegate be instructed thereon.

(1) *Articles of Association.*—After considerable discussion it was resolved that the delegate be instructed to oppose the Anamalai Planters' Association's Resolution.

Rules.—I. It was resolved to support the Executive Committee's Resolution regarding the declared acreages, but the delegate was instructed to

ask for permission to propose that the following words be inserted into the Resolution : ' after the words agricultural operations ' in the 2nd para, insert the words ' other than weeding and essential Pest and disease works '.

The delegate was requested to try and get the support of the other two Rubber Planters' Association Delegates as it was considered very essential that these words should be included in the proposal.

II. It was decided to support the South Travancore Planters' Association's Resolution.

III. It was decided that the delegate vote against Wynad Planters' Association's Resolution that Rule 14 of U. P. A. S. I. Labour Rules be amended as this Association were of the opinion that there was still sufficient work for all the labour available from its usual recruiting Districts.

Provident Funds.—The Delegate was instructed to oppose the Anamalai Planters' Association's Resolution with reference to the Provident Fund of Employees of the U.P.A.S.I., and that this Association support the amendment to be brought forward by the West Coast Planters' Association.

This Association is strongly opposed to any Employee of the U.P.A.S.I. being granted a pension in future.

Roads.—The Delegate was instructed to support the Nelliampathy Planters' Association's Resolution.

Labour Department.—The Delegate was instructed not to vote on the Anamalai Planters' Association's Resolution but to oppose the amendment thereto to be brought up by the West Coast Planters' Association.

Tea Propaganda in India.—The Resolutions to be brought forward by the Anamalai Planters' Association and the Central Travancore Planters' Association were fully discussed and the subjects were left to the decision of the Delegate.

Copper Sulphate.—Delegate was instructed to support the Resolution to be moved by the Shevaroy Planters' Association.

Tea.—The Delegate was instructed to support the Anamalai Planters' Association's Resolution with reference to the Tea Scientific Station.

Coffee.—The Shevaroy Planters' Association's Resolution was discussed and the Delegate instructed to support same ; but in view of the Resolution passed at the last Annual General Meeting re Surplus Balances of Departments (vide page 155 of the U.P.A.S.I. Book of Proceedings 1930) the Delegate was instructed to bring forward the following Resolution if he could obtain the permission of the Chairman and the Meeting to do so.

' That this Association recognises the principle that the General Funds may be drawn up when necessary to adequately maintain any Scientific Department of the U.P.A.S.I. now in existence '.

Rubber.—The Delegate was also instructed to try and obtain permission of the Chairman to bring forward the following Resolutions :—

(I) ' That the Rubber Growers Association be asked if they could see their way to increase their Annual Grant to the U.P.A.S.I. for Scientific Research.'

(II) ' That the Empire Marketing Board be approached with a view to their assisting our Scientific Departments with a grant.'

U.P.A.S.I. Buying Agency.—The Delegate was instructed to ask the Chairman if it would not be possible for the U.P.A.S.I. to forego the annual subscription paid by the present members to the Buying Agency during the present period of depression, and if necessary to frame a Resolution to this effect.

The rest of the subjects on the published Agenda were left to the Delegate.

4. *Subscriptions, 1931-32.*

(a) The Secretary read letter from Mr. J. R. Vincent to the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I. regarding above.

No other members had any information to give the Meeting with regard to U.P.A.S.I. letter to Rubber Estate Proprietors as they had not received any information from their Principals.

(b) Read letter from the Superintendent, Vellanadi Estate, regarding his Company's resignation from the U.P.A.S.I. and the M.P.A.

The Secretary was instructed to write and inform the Superintendent, Vellanadi Estate, that his notice of resignation from the Mundakayam Planters' Association would take effect from April 1, 1931.

A and B.—*S.I.P. Benevolent Fund, and Peermade Churchyard Fund.*

The Chairman appealed to Members to continue their support to the above funds.

There being no other business, the Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Sd.) R. M. SAYWELL,
Chairman.

O. J. EGAN-WYER,
Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH TRAVANCORE

The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the South Travancore Planters' Association held at the Kalthurly Valley Club on Saturday, August 8, 1931.

Present :

H. R. C. Parker (*Chairman*), R. Branson, T. L. Jackson, M. W. Mackay, T. W. U. Park, F. H. Powell, C. E. Smith, A. P. D. Lodge (*Honorary Secretary*), and by Proxy, E. Hall.

Honorary Members : R. Lawson, E. Gray.

1. The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.
2. The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on May 30, 1931, having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, with the exception of one item 'in Committee', were taken as read and the Honorary Secretary read this one item to the Meeting. Mr. Branson proposed the Minutes be confirmed, seconded by Mr. Park.

Carried.

3. Mr. L. C. Cockaday was duly elected a member of the Association.
4. *U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting at Bangalore.*—The Chairman proposed that Mr. H. J. Walmsley be asked to represent us at the above meeting.

Carried unanimously.

The various resolutions that were to be brought up at the Meeting were then fully discussed, and the Honorary Secretary instructed to inform our delegate accordingly.

5. Mr. H. R. C. Parker as District Representative on the R. A. C. discussed the future of the Scientific Station. He stated that a circular had been sent to all Rubber Companies asking if they were willing to subscribe for next year at a 3 annas cess. No copy of this circular had been sent to

the P. A's interested, and the Honorary Secretary had written to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., for one, but no reply had yet been received. No decision could be arrived at until replies to this circular came in. The meeting agreed with him that copies of any circulars of this description should always be sent to the Associations concerned, and he informed the meeting that the Honorary Secretary had requested the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., to inform the Executive Committee accordingly.

H. R. C. PARKER,
Chairman.

A. P. D. LODGE,
Honorary Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE

COFFEE DRINKING IN ENGLAND

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Since my arrival in England last May, after nearly nine years' coffee planting in India, I am amazed to find how little coffee is drunk in this country.

I have moved about considerably and stayed in a number of private houses, renewing old acquaintances, and find everywhere, that coffee drinking has decreased since I have been away. Even in shops and restaurants where it can be obtained it is not worth drinking.

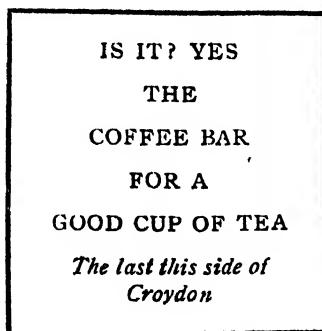
The enclosed snapshot¹ which I took on the Brighton road is a fair example of the decline of Coffee, and shows how the name 'Coffee Bar' has become merely a sign, where other beverages may be obtained.

I enclose an article written by my brother (not a Coffee Planter) who will be glad if you will publish it in the *Chronicle*, if you consider it of interest to your readers.

THE VICARAGE, PEMBURY,
TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
July 28, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
G. W. OWEN.

¹ We regret it was found impossible to reproduce the original satisfactorily but Mr. Owen's meaning will not be lost if we state that the wording on the sign post was as follows:-



Editor.

A FUTURE FOR THE COFFEE SPECIALIST AND HOW THE COMING REVIVAL IN COFFEE WILL BENEFIT OTHER TRADES

'What's wrong with Coffee?' is frequently being asked. How is it that coffee has become an Empire product of no small importance and yet remains comparatively little appreciated? The answer is probably that millions have never tasted it. The Empire's need of advertising is continually being stressed, but coffee has never been properly introduced to the public at large, although by its nature, it lends itself easily to demonstration and display, and to advertising which is judiciously directed and properly planned.

A contributor to the *Times* has pointed out that the mess which is usually made of coffee in England is an illustration of our habit of 'muddling through' and the way in which the bulk of this Empire product is treated is a disgrace to human workmanship. Although the time has most certainly arrived for something to be done, yet there are difficulties in the way of launching a national education campaign, owing to competing interests. A method which is more likely to meet with success is one which could be initiated on a much smaller scale, and of which the underlying idea would be to push the sale of Empire Coffee. The difficulty is always to get the movement started, but it could be done by forming one at a time a number of groups of representative traders, in time covering the whole country and ready to act in conjunction with each other. A co-operative marketing scheme would then be possible, and save wasteful competitive advertising between individual firms.

Some of the high class caterers have already discovered the advantages of developing a trade in choice coffee, which has been freshly roasted and freshly ground on the premises. Successful ventures are bound to attract the attention of others, and gradually there will be growing up a generation anxious to enter what they would consider a highly useful and interesting occupation, and in order to do so, would be willing to undergo training at moderate fees.

The objects of a coffee marketing association might be enumerated as follows:—

- (1) To set up a Coffee Intelligence Service for all members of the Association and to carry out Market Surveys.
- (2) To adopt the system of decentralized roasting, that is, roasting near the point of sale, and *not* in enormous charges prior to distribution, as in U. S. A.
- (3) To encourage the supply of coffee to the public in smaller units.
- (4) To encourage retailers and their staffs to attend conferences whenever the handling of coffee is discussed, and to give advice on blending, costing, packing, salesmanship, and advertising.
- (5) To equip mobile demonstration vans to travel the provinces and to interest the public with propaganda and to demonstrate the soundness of buying 'little and often'.
- (6) To teach coffee roasting at schools of cookery and other places, and to grant certificates of proficiency.
- (7) To approve the use of a distinctive sign or trade mark to those caterers and other distributors who maintain a high degree of efficiency in the quality and service of their coffee.

Associations or groups who obtain and act on the advice and assistance offered by such bodies as the Empire Marketing Board will find that

by using the best types of British coffees so that they gradually become the predominating constituent in the choice standard blends, the public will unconsciously acquire a taste for higher standard coffee, and the Empire growths at the same time which will become permanent.

Besides those traders directly dealing in coffee the following could be invited to support a comprehensive advertising campaign, namely :—

Makers of Roasting Machines, & Coffee Mills.

Gas and Electric Supply Companies.

Makers of Containers, Glass, Parchment, and Fancy Box.

E. P. Makers of Filter Papers, of Measuring Sets, of Earthenware and Coffee Sets.

Makers of Ice Cream Freezers, and similar appliances.

The Builders and Equippers of Travelling Demonstration Vans.

Printed Advertising and Window Publicity Experts.

(Signed) B. COWLEY OWEN,
Captain.

Dry Spraying or Dusting

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

DEAR SIR,

I have read with interest the letters respecting the above in your issue of the 4th instant.

Mr. Morris's dry spraying operations do not appear to have been conducted under the conditions specified in my previous letter ; nor does he describe what apparatus or what powder he made use of : perhaps the addition of a little gelatin to the latter might have conferred on it adequate adhesive properties.

Dry spraying is advocated not exclusively upon its merits but as being much more economical as well as speedier in covering the infected area.

A Coffee Estate owner here has recently informed me that the firm who act as his agents in India estimated the cost of wet spraying his estate to be about Rs. 53 an acre—a prohibitive expense in his case.

Perhaps Mr. Taylor may be interested to learn that there is no occasion to send to the United States for sprayers or powders.

Articles of British make ought—*ceteris paribus*—to be preferred to those of foreign suppliers. I therefore append a list (though by no means complete) of English firms, as a counterblast to Mr. Taylor's exotic list :—

SPRAYING APPARATUS

Cooper Pegler & Co. Ltd.,

24 Christopher Street, London E.C. 2.

The Four-Oaks Spraying Machine Company, Birmingham.

DUSTING POWDERS

Wm. Bailey & Son,

Horseley Fields Works, Wolverhampton.

The Strawson Chemical Company Ltd.,

79 Queen Victoria Street, London E.C. 4.

Murphy & Sons, Ltd., Wheathampstead, Herts,

(The last named have Agenis in India)

Rowntree M'Kenzie & Co. Ltd., Sholapur Road, Poona.

44, PRIMROSE HILL ROAD, N.W. 3.

PRIMROSE HILL 2994.

July 30, 1931.

Yours etc.,

W. A. LEE.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Average prices obtained for tea.					
Mark	Pkgs.	Price	District	Week ending July 30, 1931	January 1 to July 30, 1931	January 1 to July 30, 1930		
				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
N. India.		0 8 69		0 10 91	1 2 17			
S. India.	a	0 7 44	b	1 0 03	c 1 3 19			
Ceylon...		1 0 44		1 2 78	1 6 63			
Java ...		0 7 09		0 7 47	0 10 05			
Sumatra.		0 6 67		0 8 02	0 11 27			
Nyassa- l a n d .		0 4 23		0 7 03	0 9 34			
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, July 30, 1931).			Total...	d 0 10 49	e 0 11 70	f 1 3 01		

(a) Anamallais—

		s. d.	
Nullacathu	...	117	1 1 ½
Velonie	...	137	0 10 ½
Gajam Mudi	..	130	0 8 ½
Thoni Mudi	...	297	0 8
Stanmore	...	214	0 7 ¼
Nalla Mudi	...	178	0 7 ¼
Anai Mudi	...	116	0 7 ½

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 7,341 b 162,976 c 194,111
d 80,906 e 2,493,661 f 2,435,949

(b) Central Travancore—

		s. d.	
Glenmary	...	86	0 9 ½
Twyford and Ashley Estate :—			
Vembanaad	...	97	0 9
Woodlands	...	62	0 8 ½
Arnakal	...	161	0 8 ½
Pirmed	...	150	0 8 ½
Stugbrook	...	59	0 8 ½
Ladrum	...	125	0 7 ½

(B) RUBBER.—

(c) Kanan Devans--

		s. d.	
Nullatanni	...	59	1 3 ½
Grahamsland	...	66	1 2 ½
Letchmi	...	112	1 1
Lockhart	...	150	0 9 ½
*Kalaar	...	74	0 9
*Upp. Surianalle	...	211	0 7 ½

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, August 25, 1931, was 2^½d

(d) Nilgiris—

		s. d.	
*Prospect	...	168	1 5 ½
Brooklands	...	90	0 9 ½

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, August 22, 1931, were 81,751 tons, a decrease of 420 tons on August 15, 1931, inventory.

(e) Wynnaad —

		s. d.	
Pootoomulla	...	106	0 8

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, August 22, 1931, were 54,722 tons, a decrease of 184 tons on August 15, 1931, inventory.

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.



6p

FORT

DUNLOP

for More Mileage

and

Safer Smoother Running

WHETHER you use your car every day or only occasionally, you can be sure of tyre satisfaction if you fit 'Fort' Dunlop. Strength—durability long mileage—safety—are provided by 'Fort' Dunlop in a greater measure than ever. The bold tread of special compounded rubber provides maximum traction with minimum wear. The cord casing of heavy cotton fabric ensures utmost efficiency in the finished tyre. The special breaker strip construction provides greater protection against stone bruises and concussion damage. Every motorists who rides on 'Fort' Dunlop tyres enjoys the benefits of over 40 years' experience in tyre manufacture!

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD.
MOUNT ROAD **MADRAS**

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Wednesday, August 26, 1931

Planting.—With only very little interest being shown in other sections, both Rubber and Tea were completely neglected with no enquiry from sellers or buyers. Cochin Malabars had a marking at Re. 1 but otherwise business was flat.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0 2 6	...
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0 7 0	- 3d.
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0 7 9	- 9d.
4. Merlimau Rubber	2s.	0 1 3	...
5. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1 7 6	+ 2s.
6. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0 0	7½	+ 1½d.
7. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	...
8. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 2 6	...
9. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0 11 9	...
10. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0 7 0	- 3s.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	1	2
Cochins Rs. 15	...	8
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	15	17½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	Noml.
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	2
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	10	11
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	...	27
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	17
Periasholas Rs. 10	...	1
Periyars Rs. 10	1½	3
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	3	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	75	80
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	11

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on August 18, 1931, totalled 1,791,539 lbs. Quality is very satisfactory and demand for all fine teas continues unabated. **NUWARA ELIYA AND MATURATA.**—Some very fine invoices were available for which active competition prevailed and prices showed a still further increase as compared with last week's level. **HIGH GROWN.**—Quality was good with a number of Uva Teas showing improvement. Broken Grades were well supported and must be quoted dearer. Pekoes were also in request but some little irregularity was noticeable in the case of Orange Pekoes of which a good many lots were withdrawn. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Supplies showed some improvement in quality and demand followed on lines similar to those prevailing in the case of high elevation growths. **LOW GROWN.** With the exception of Broken Orange Pekoes which moved irregularly, demand was steady and in the case of well made Pekoes a firmer tendency was noticeable. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.**—Finest sorts were considerably dearer; other kinds remained about steady.

South Indian Teas in Auction of August 11, obtained the following prices :—

Estates				Total lbs.	Average
Welbeck	...	...	...	3,225	56
Chinnar	...	...	...	5,517	27
Periashola	...	...	...	3,460	27
Do.	...	...	...	4,283	26
Do.	...	...	...	3,454	26
Pookulam	...	...	...	5,950	25

RUBBER.—About 144 tons were offered at the Auction held on August 13, 1931, and as before there was a very small supply of Standards. There was an easier market and prices fell to the lowest so far recorded. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet of which there were only a few lines realised 11½ cents showing a drop of a half cent on last week's prices. Fair quality Sheet was well supported and also showed a drop of half cent while Off quality was about quarter cent easier. The demand for Inferior quality Sheet was weaker and this grade dropped ½ of a cent. The few lines of Contract Crepe in the Sale sold at 11½ cents showing a decline of a half cent on previous rates and a good many lines of just Off Crepe sold at the same price. Off and Mottled sorts met with a good enquiry but were ½ to ¾ of a cent down on last Auction prices. A good demand ruled for all grades of Scrap Crepe and good sorts eased a half cent, and all other sorts about ¼ of a cent. A very small quantity of Scrap was available and this grade sold at unchanged rates.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

August 9, 1931 to August 22, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order, approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai..	...	...	...	24. Coonoor ..	0·66	...	...
2. Kalthurity ..	...	...	...	25. Kotagiri ..	1·12	...	...
3. Kallar Bdge.	19·55	7·94	27·49	26. Ootacamund ..	2·44	...	...
4. Koney ..	14·99	3·52	18·51	27. Yercand ..	2·85	...	...
5. Pottanapura.	13·37	4·69	18·06	28. Mango Range ..	17·47	...	...
6. Kumbazha ..	13·68	4·17	17·85	29. Devala ..	18·03	...	...
6a Peravathanam ..	...	...	...	30. Devarshola.	10·87	13·81	24·68
6b Aneikolam ..	21·30	9·01	30·31	31. CALICUT ..	15·17	...	...
7. Peernade ..	38·32	...	...	32. Kuttiyadi ..	26·84	...	...
8. Twyford ..	41·46	28·11	69·57	33. Vayitri ..	32·61	...	...
9 V'periyar ..	...	23·12	...	34. Manantoddi ..	...	...	...
10. Kalaar ..	37·63	...	...	35. Billigiris ..	4·47	5·03	9·50
11. Chittuvurrai ..	3·26	1·14	4·40	36. Sidapur ..	9·50	...	...
12. Boni'KANUR ..	1·73	...	...	37. Ghatted Hull ..	...	...	...
13. COCHIN ..	13·84	...	...	38. Pollibetta ..	...	...	11·78
14. Mooply ..	26·41	14·99	41·40	39. Somwarpett ..	...	...	...
15. Pachaimalai.	19·52	...	...	40. Saklaspur ..	...	...	...
16. Mudis ..	30·66	...	...	41. Kadarnane ..	...	45·33	..
17. POLLACHIR ..	4·12	...	...	42. Balehonnur ..	...	...	...
18. Nell'pathy...	25·65	16·38	42·03	43. Morthisubghey.	26·27	14·44	40·71
19. Karapara ..	33·93	...	...	44. Kelagur ..	10·85	5·24	16·09
20. Pullengode ..	15·17	11·50	26·67	45. Durgadbett ..	21·83	11·45	33·28
21. Nilambur ..	17·87	...	...	46. MANGALORE ..	10·61	...	...
22. Naduvattam ..	15·86	...	...	47. MADRAS ..	2·08	...	...
23. Nilgiri Peak ..	...	...	...	

41. Kadarnane.—Rainfall fortnight ending August 15, 1931 = 73·05 in.

42. Balehonnur.—Rainfall fortnight ending August 15, 1931 = 24·42 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 19]

September 12, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE Annual Report and Accounts of the Ross Institute for 1930 show that donations and subscriptions have decreased to an alarming extent due, no doubt, to the existing trade depression, and, *The Ross Institute* as the Institute is supported entirely by voluntary subscriptions, it would be most unfortunate if, through lack of support, it were forced to curtail its activities at a time when they are most needed. The splendid work done by the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases in improving health conditions in the Tropics, maintaining research laboratories, hospital and Malaria department, etc., as well as instituting a vigorous propaganda campaign for the extension of anti-malarial work and the prevention of this disease, is too well known to need recapitulation by us but we do hope that those of our readers who are in the fortunate position of having money to spare will not overlook the very deserving needs of this organization and support it as far as they are able. Any contributions should be sent direct to the Treasurer, Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Putney Heath, S. W. 15.

JUST as we go to Press, we have learnt of the tragic death of Sir Steuart Pears who, during the period 1925-29 when he was Resident in Mysore and Commissioner of Coorg, proved himself a true friend of the Planting Community. He attended the Opening of the Annual Meetings in Bangalore in 1925, 1926 and 1929 and addressed the Meeting on the first two occasions.

On behalf of the Planting Community in S. India we tender our deepest sympathy to Lady Pears in her great loss.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

THE PERFECT WAY TO MAKE PERFECT COFFEE

Miss (or Mrs.) Rosa Tarratt, writing in the *Morning Post* of London, gave the following particulars from a Boston (Mass.) recipe for making perfect coffee : ' It was in Boston, Mass., that I first learnt the right way to make good coffee. Boston is quite noted for its old Coffee House, which had stood, when I first visited it, since the days of the early settlers.

' The coffee is never boiled, this being the deadly sin in coffee making. Nearly boiling water should be poured on to freshly ground, lightly-roasted coffee. It should be well stirred with a wooden spoon, allowed to stand and settle—well covered—for six minutes, and then poured carefully into a china jug. Plenty of grounds should be allowed for each person, a tablespoon for each large cup. A strong coffee essence is the result, which, added to hot milk and sufficient cream, gives one the true aroma of perfect coffee.'

Leaving others to comment on this recipe we had always considered the old Dutch West Indian recipe the best way for extracting the utmost value and flavour from the coffee, a way which certainly gave excellent coffee provided the berries themselves left nothing to be desired. You roast and grind the coffee immediately before use, and immediately after running off the liquor for serving up, put the coffee grounds into a receptacle, coffee-pot probably, and cover it with the same quantity of *cold* water as was used in making the coffee just served up. Then when you next want coffee use that water to pour on to the newly roasted and ground coffee for the next meal or requirement. Probably the water was only to be used within twenty-four hours or before the second night passed. In this way the Dutch housewife from whom this recipe came, claimed that the cold water drew as much real flavour from the coffee (hence the necessity of its being a really good coffee) as did the final boil-up and preparation of the coffee. Those who tasted the coffee made in this way claimed that the flavour was good and the quantity of liquor obtained was larger in comparison to the coffee used each day.—*Tropical Life*, August 1931.

BIBBY LINE PASSENGER FARES.

We are glad to announce that this well-known Line have further reduced their passage rates to England, and these new rates will come into operation at the end of November. Full particulars of reduced fares will be found under the Bibby Line Advertisement appearing on page xii of this issue.

MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, MADRAS.

The Manager informs us that the Directors have declared an Interim Dividend at the rate of 14 per cent per annum, less income-tax, for the half-year ended June 30, 1931.

**SUMMARY OF MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
WHITLEY COMMISSION WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO LABOUR IN
PLANTING AREAS**

BY

F. E. JAMES

(A) FACTORIES

The Report makes a clear distinction between perennial and seasonal factories. 'We consider that the law should recognise more definitely the special position of seasonal factories, and that the aim should be to establish standards which may not be identical with those of perennial factories, but which will be enforced with as much vigour as is applicable to the latter.'

A general description of a seasonal factory is laid down as 'one which normally works for not more than half the days of the year.' It is proposed that the Factories Act should include certain specified classes of factories within the definition of a seasonal factory, and the following are mentioned:—Cotton and ginning, lac, indigo, coffee and rubber factories, jute presses and the factories in all the provinces in North India. The Commission appears to be of the opinion that as the South India tea factories work nearly all the year round, they are not 'strictly seasonal.' The Report goes on to say, however, that 'the above list is not intended to be exhaustive, and it should be enlarged by the inclusion, with reference to the particular provinces concerned, of any other groups which are entirely or almost entirely seasonal.'

The following are the main recommendations, with regard to factories:—

1. The weekly limit of hours for perennial factories to be reduced to 54 and the daily limit to 10; in the case of seasonal factories to 60 and 11 respectively.
2. Statutory intervals ordinarily to be not less than an hour in the aggregate, any distribution to be subject to the sanction of the Chief Inspector of Factories.
3. Maximum daily hours for children to be limited to 5, with at least one rest interval.
4. Persons between ages of 15 and 16 not to be employed as adults without medical certificate of physical fitness.
5. Minimum rate for overtime to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the normal when work exceeds 54 hours a week and $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the normal in case of 60 hours work.
6. When weekly rest days cannot be given, two rest days to be given at end of fortnight.
7. Exemptions to be based on uniform standards throughout India, for specified periods only (e.g. maximum of 3 years) and to be reduced to the smallest dimension possible.

8. Owners of existing tea factories, to be required to instal a sufficient dust extracting machinery within a specified period.

9. When women are employed in any process creating an impure atmosphere, the owner to be required to set up some temporary shelter in the compound for their infants.

10. Simple literature in the vernacular in regard to safety to be distributed by factory departments.

11. Employment of children under a prescribed standard of height to be illegal.

12. Every factory to be compelled to maintain separate and sufficient latrine accommodation for males and females, and adequate staff to keep them clean.

13. (a) Employers to study methods of reducing temperature.

(b) Where a Chief Inspector is of opinion that (1) the cooling power in a factory is so deficient as to cause serious discomfort or danger to the health of the operative, and (2) it can be appreciably increased by methods which do not involve unreasonable expense,

he to be empowered to serve on the owner an order requiring the adoption of specified measures within a given time. An appeal to lie to a tribunal of three appointed by the local Government.

14. Rigorous action to be taken against those factories where conditions in regard to humidification are bad.

15. In every district all factory cases to go before experienced magistrates, and where possible the same magistrate.

16. Certificates of stability to be required before work is begun in factories or when important structural alterations are to be made, and inspectors to be empowered to obtain structural tests and plans and information for the measurement of safety of buildings.

17. Local Governments to be empowered under the Factories Act to issue Welfare orders to classes or groups of factories, disputes as to reasonableness to be laid before a Referee.

18. Provision of water and places for washing to be obligatory for workers in dirty processes.

19. Increase in factory inspectors to be effected and women inspectors to be appointed.

(B) WAGES

1. Legislation to be effected regulating deductions from wages and fines ; making the fining of children illegal ; fixing the maximum amount for deductions from wages in any given month ; making the crediting of amounts realised from fines to a Fund for the benefit of employees obligatory ; regulating the number and purpose of other deductions in respect of specific causes or benefits (*e.g.* provision of housing accommodation, tools, raw material), providing for registers to be kept showing deductions, etc., to be kept in a form prescribed by the local Government, and to be checked at intervals in the case of factories by the inspecting staff.

2. Legislation to be enacted providing a summary procedure for the liquidation of workers' unsecured debts.

3. Possibility of reducing the period of limitation for debts and the period within which a decree may be kept alive under the ordinary civil law to be examined.

4. Besetting an industrial establishment for the recovery of debts to be a cognizable offence. .

5. With regard to recruiting advances—

(a) The recovery of any amount advanced to meet travelling expenses to the place of employment to be made illegal.

(b) Other advances to the worker before actual employment begins to be irrecoverable by law, except from the first wage payment.

6. A system of weekly payment to be adopted.

7. Wages to be paid within 7 days from the expiry of the period in which they have been earned, or, in the case of discharge, within 2 days from the date of that discharge.

(C) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

1. The Workmen's Compensation Act to be extended to include all workmen employed on plantations employing not less than 50 persons, and all workmen employed in factories using power and employing not less than 10 persons, and in factories not using power employing not less than 50 persons.

2. Widowed sisters and widowed daughters to be added to the list of dependants.

3. The minimum compensation for death in the case of adults to be Rs. 600—and for complete permanent disablement Rs. 840—; the present maxima of Rs. 2,500—and Rs. 3,500—to be abolished.

4. Existing wage classes to be increased, this resulting in enhanced compensation.

5. The waiting period during which no compensation is given for temporary disablement to be reduced from 10 to 7 days.

6. Pamphlets summarising the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act to be made available to all workmen.

7. (a) Notice to the Commissioner to be compulsory in the case of fatal accidents occurring to employees while they are on the employers' premises or while they are on duty elsewhere.

(b) The Commissioner to have the power to call upon the employer to show cause why he should not deposit compensation and to inform the dependants that it is open to them to make a claim.

8. In fatal accidents the dependent not to be required to approach the employer before claiming compensation from the Commissioner.

9. Where a workman is employed by a contractor the principal employer to be able to recover compensation from any person from whom the workman could have recovered compensation.

10. The High Court and the Commissioner to have power to secure the withholding of compensation pending an appeal, the employers making the appeal to deposit a substantial sum to be devoted to the maintenance of the opposite party during the pending of the appeal.

(D) HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Managers of plantations to be required to maintain birth and death registers to be inspected periodically by Government.
2. Where possible, managers to make a more generous allocation to workers of land for grazing and for vegetable cultivation.
3. A more active policy to be adopted by all plantation managements in regard to anti-malarial work carried out under skilled advice and supervision.
4. Where conditions are suitable, tube wells to be constructed, and where possible, piped water supplies to be provided.
5. Workers' houses to be suitably spaced out, not built back to back, and to be in blocks of two rooms and wherever possible on high ground.
6. Standard minimum requirements in regard to plinths, floor and cubic space, light and ventilation to be prescribed by the competent authority which should have the power to condemn insanitary houses. Standard type plans to suit varying conditions to be prepared and made available to estate managements.
7. Workers to be encouraged, where possible, under supervision to build their own houses on approved sites. Where possible, a number of lights to be provided in and around the housing areas.
8. Bathing and washing places of simple type to be constructed in the vicinity of the house lines; Public Health Departments to prepare type plans.
9. Planters to carry out annual mass treatment of their labour forces for hook-worm.
10. Women doctors to be employed by each medical group organisation for confinements in hospital, for the training and supervision of midwives and dais, and for child welfare work.
11. The practice of giving free food to indoor patients to be adopted in all plantation hospitals.
12. Maternity benefits to be provided for by legislation. The cash benefit to the mother ordinarily to take the form of half her daily wage for a period of four weeks before and four weeks after child birth. In addition, a bonus of Rs. 5 to be given, except where the woman refuses to avail herself of the skilled services of a woman doctor or a trained midwife provided by the employer. In the case of plantation labour the condition of a 'qualifying period' of employment which is required in other industries to be dispensed with.
13. The practice of feeding non-working children without charge to be generally adopted.
14. Plantation managers to assist in organising suitable recreation for their workers and to provide playing fields for general recreational purposes.
15. The employment of health visitors to be desirable; the work of the health visitor to be always supervised by the estate of group medical officer. Where a group medical organization exists, the woman doctor, with two or three health visitors, to organize welfare centres on each garden of the group.

16. When young children become orphaned and have no relations settled on the estate, the district magistrate or some suitable authority to be invariably approached to get into touch with any existing relations and, if a desire is expressed for the return of the child, arrangements to be made for repatriation.

17. The employment, either directly or with their parents, of children before the age of ten years to be prohibited by law. The names of all employed children to be entered in the wage-book, and in the case of children not born on a plantation and therefore without a registered birth certificate, the estate doctor to be required to determine the age before the child is allowed to start work.

18. Representatives of the local Governments concerned and of planters to meet in conference to consider what contribution each could make towards the education of children on plantations.

19. The Director of Public Health, his assistants and the district health officers to be ex-officio inspectors of plantations.

20. (a) Boards of Health and Welfare to be established under statute for convenient planting areas.

(b) Each Board to have a majority of planter representatives and to include a Collector or Deputy Commissioner from the districts covered, the Director of Public Health (or one of his assistants as deputy), the district health officer and persons nominated by the local Government to represent workers. The Board to include at least one woman member; the Protector of Immigrants to have the right to attend but not to vote.

(c) The area to be allotted to each Board to depend on local considerations, but Government to remain directly responsible for public health in adjoining areas which are interspersed with plantations.

(d) Each Board to be financed by means of an annual cess levied on all plantations within its area. The cess to be based on the planted acreage or on the resident population, but the final decision as to the method to be adopted to be made after consultation between the local Governments and the industry.

(e) A rebate up to two-thirds of the cess collected to be made to estates according to system of marks awarded by medical inspecting authorities for housing, medical facilities, anti-malarial work and other amenities of which they approve.

(f) The Chief Executive Officer of the Board to be a whole-time experienced medical officer with public health qualifications.

(g) In respect of maternity benefit legislation the Board to be the administrative authority for the area under its control.

(h) The Act constituting the Boards and prescribing their procedure to detail, as far as possible, their duties and the matters in respect of which they may issue regulations; these, however, before they are issued, to be submitted to the local Government, which should have the power to refer them back to the Board with suggestions for their amendment. In the case of regulations dealing with certain important matters, such as the provision of drinking water, conservancy, sanitation, drainage, medical facilities and the prescribing of minimum standards of new housing accommodation, the local Government to have the power either to approve them or to modify them in such manner as it thinks fit.

In the case of other regulations of local Government not to have the power to modify or supersede the regulations proposed by the Board.

(i) Government to have the power through its inspectors of instituting prosecutions for infringements of any regulations, but this power should only be invoked after the Board, without sufficient reason, had refused to prosecute.

(j) Government also to retain some financial control.

21. District Health Officers to act as Government Inspectors of plantations and should be empowered to deal with breaches of public health laws and regulations on estates.

(E) STATISTICS

1. Planters in all estates to be required by statute to furnish statistics relating to the labour forces employed by them.

2. The formation of an Industrial Council :—

(a) In the frame-work of the future constitution, provision to be made for an organisation (the Industrial Council), which would enable representatives of employers, of labour and of Governments to meet regularly in conference to discuss labour measures and labour policy.

(b) The Council to be sufficiently representative but not too large. The representatives of labour to be elected by registered trade unions, or, where there are no registered trade unions of any size, to be nominated by Government. The employers' representatives also to be elected by associations of employers, whose voting power should be approximately proportionate to the number of workers which their members employ.

(c) The Council to meet annually and its president to be elected at each annual session. The Secretary of the Council to be a permanent official responsible to it for the current business throughout the year.

(d) Functions of the Council :—

(i) to examine proposals for labour legislation referred to it and also to initiate such proposals ;

(ii) to promote a spirit of co-operation and understanding among those concerned with labour policy, and to provide an opportunity for an interchange of information regarding experiments in labour matters ;

(iii) to advise the Central and provincial Governments on the framing of rules and regulations ;

(iv) to advise regarding the collection of labour statistics and the co-ordination and development of economic research.

3. If labour legislation to be central, the authority finally responsible for such legislation to be the Central Legislature. If labour legislation to be decentralised, some co-ordinating body to be necessary. The decisions of the Council not to be given mandatory power, but in certain circumstances it to be made obligatory for provincial Governments within a specified time to submit proposals for legislation to their respective legislatures for a decision as to their adoption or rejection.

4. Votes in the Industrial Council to be recorded separately in three groups, one including employers' representatives, one workers' representatives and one the remaining members.

5. Where there is the danger of establishments being transferred to Indian States in order to escape regulation, an effort to be made to obtain the co-operation of the adjoining States.

6. For Indian States in which there is appreciable industrial development, the Industrial Council to offer a suitable channel for co-operation.

CRITICISM OF I.T.C. COMMITTEE'S PROPAGANDA SCHEME.

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle.'

DEAR SIR,

If it is not occupying too much of your valuable space, I would like to quote the following extract from the *Planters' Journal and Agriculturist* in connection with a matter which is generally conceded to be of very great importance to the planting industry in Southern India :—

'Indian Tea Cess Committee's Accounts—Some illuminating figures.—We have received from the Indian Tea Cess Committee the 28th Annual Report for the year ended March 31, 1931. Some of the figures are remarkably illuminating. Out of a total expenditure in India of Rs. 7·37 lakhs, "for promoting the sale and increasing the consumption of tea in India" as much as Rs. 6·15 lakhs disappears in office expenses, salaries and travelling expenses, leaving for the real work of propaganda no more than Rs. 1·22 lakhs. This means that roughly for every rupee spent in propaganda, Rs. 6 is spent on overheads. Is there a single member serving on the Committee of the Indian Tea Cess who, if he conducted his business with this ratio of overheads, would not be dismissed as a madman? We go further. Is there a single business that could live for a year with this ratio of expenditure? There are no details of the figures of that American expenditure of £50,000. They may possibly, and no doubt do, follow closely the fine example of the "Head Office." We have put "Head Office" in inverted commas because the actual Head Office is in London, where the audit fee costs £450 and the establishment and travelling expenses £6,840, out of a total of £10,000 allotted. We feel it a necessary duty to publish the expenditure details of The Indian Tea Cess Committee so that all Planters may know where the money goes.'

Annual Report of the Indian Tea Cess Committee.—We publish elsewhere in this issue the full annual report of the India Tea Cess Committee covering the period for the year ending March 1931. As usual there are no statistics given showing the results of the work in India and we can only attribute this policy to a desire to hide results. Imagine the report of the directors of a public company without figures showing results. This is precisely what the report does. It is a totally inadequate report and we trust that in future reports, the actual results showing increased consumption are included.'

From the reports of the meeting at Bangalore one learns that the Tea Cess Committee propose to take tea from estates for propaganda work in Southern India paying 4 as. 6 ps. per lb. Bangalore, or say As. 4 per lb. delivered Coast Port. They propose to bulk and repack this tea for sale to the consumer at As. 10 a pound. The 5 as. 6 ps. per lb. between the price

at which the tea is supplied and that at which it is charged to the consumer, is absorbed according to reports, in transport charges, bulking and repacking and profits to distributors and vendors. As far as our present information goes nothing is included for propaganda work.

This appears to reflect a state of affairs and attitude towards practical business, very similar to that which occasions the criticisms just quoted.

The object of the propaganda is clearly understood to be the fostering of the tea drinking habit but for this purpose there is surely no necessity for the top-heavy and cumbersome scheme that has been put forward. There are numerous suitable organizations or even individuals who would welcome with open arms the opportunity of undertaking this propaganda work and see it carried out in a proper and efficient manner, were they allowed to reimburse themselves from a fraction of the profits to be made in handling these tea sales in Southern India on the basis indicated. If the propaganda in America was run on similar lines and as expensively as that proposed for Southern India, there is no wonder that the Americans are openly scoffing at the efforts of the Tea Cess Committee to encourage tea drinking in that country.

August 31, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
CONCERNED.

Editor's Reply.

In fairness to the Indian Tea Cess Committee, we must point out that the *Planters' Journal and Agriculturist* in their criticism of the I. T. C. C. Accounts appear to have ignored the fact that the figure of Rs. 6·15 lakhs written off as office expenses, salaries and travelling expenses, in reality represents the main expenditure on propaganda and the lesser figure of Rs. 1·22 lakhs merely represents that propaganda which is visible to the eye in the form of advertisements in the papers, journals, etc., distribution of leaflets, advertising signs on Railway stations, Bus routes and so on.

Their main method of propaganda is the appointing of travellers who maintain personal touch with the distributors, appoint dealers for the selling of tea, give demonstrations and generally exploit the ground and advise the I. T. C. C. accordingly. Also the cost of providing and upkeep of lorries for transport, etc., is included under this heading.

Such expense can by no means be described as 'overhead' and in fact easily explains how the Rs. 6·15 lakhs is made up, and in our opinion can rightly be classed under the heading of 'Propaganda.'

With regard to the difference in cost between the buying price of tea, Bangalore, from South Indian Estates and that at which it is offered to wholesalers, the whole question was gone into at great length last week in Madras when the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., and an executive member of the I. T. C. C. were in consultation and the matter is being referred back to the I. T. C. C. Headquarters in Calcutta. We might add however that the price of As. 10 a pound suggested was based on a figure of 8 annas to wholesalers allowing them a profit of one anna, thence to shops at 9 annas and to the consumer at 10 annas. The difference between the As. 4½ per lb. offered to Estates and the As. 8 to wholesalers was made up by transport, bulking, packing and distributing charges, but, as we have stated previously, this figure is being reconsidered and the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I.. is in correspondence with the I. T. C. C. on the question.

INDIAN TEA PROPAGANDA

ON COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE ENVELOPES

With reference to the paragraph on this subject, in the proceedings of the General Committee's meeting on the 28th July 1931, which directed attention to the manner in which Empire teas were being advertised on correspondence covers, a number of suggestions have been received from members regarding suitable 'slogans' for the advertisement of Indian tea, and the one which finds most favour with the Committee is the following :—

**DRINK INDIAN TEA
WORLD'S BEST BEVERAGE**

2. The Committee recommend the above slogan for use on the covers of all correspondence wheresoever directed.

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION,
ROYAL EXCHANGE,
CALCUTTA,
August 21, 1931.

A. C. DANIEL,
Assistant Secretary.

MARKING OF THE MAP OF INDIA 'EMBLEM' ON TEA CHESTS PRIOR TO DESPATCH FROM THE GARDENS

The Committee had before them, for consideration at their recent meeting, a number of letters from members of the Association putting forward suggestions in regard to the recommendation in the above connection which appeared in my Circular No. 44, dated 17th August 1931.

2. The following were among the suggestions which have been put forward :—

(1) That the Committee should set up a standard size and design of the stencil recommended for use by members, and that arrangements should be made by the Association to supply members with metal stencil plates at cost price.

(2) That the words 'Produce of India' i.e., not 'British India' should appear below the 'emblem' mark on the chests, for general use throughout India.

3. Enquiry has also been made as to whether the recommendation in Circular No. 44 of 1931 is to supersede the recommendation made several years ago regarding the stencilling of the words 'Pure India Tea' on tea chests before leaving the estates.

THE PLANTERS' CHRONICLE

4. The General Committee have given their close attention to the suggestions and enquiries made by members. They hardly think it necessary for the Association to arrange a standard design and supply metal plates, as they feel this work might be placed with the parties to which such work is generally entrusted. As regards the enquiry concerning the ' Pure India Tea' recommendation, the Committee see no objection to the word 'pure' being added if members so desire. The Committee do consider, however, that there is much to be said in favour of omitting the word 'British', and merely adding the words 'Produce of India' below the emblem mark on the chests, and they commend this suggestion to the favourable consideration of members.

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION,

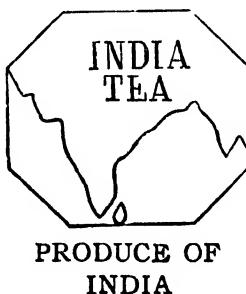
ROYAL EXCHANGE,

CALCUTTA,

September 1, 1931.

A. C. DANIEL,
Assistant Secretary.

Editor's Note.—The I.T.A. Circular No. 44 referred to above appeared in our last issue, dated August 29, 1931, and the present suggested amendment *vnde* Para 2 (2) is as below and cancels the illustration appearing on page 419 of our issue of 29 August.



PROHIBITION WEEK IN THE CITY

A meeting of the Prohibition Week Celebration Sub-Committee of the Madras Mahajana Sabha was held yesterday evening, Mr. S. Satyamurthi presiding.

* * *

It was agreed to hold the Exhibition in the new premises of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee, General Patters Road, between 20th and 27th instant. The idea is to enact a prohibition drama and conduct a city-wide procession.

Arrangements also are to be made for cinema shows in the Exhibition Hall and the grounds and to exhibit a model tea house as a counter-attraction to drinkers. An intensive propaganda is to be carried on against the letting of trees for tapping toddy.

ITALIAN MARKET FOR CEYLON TEA

A PROMISING FIELD NEGLECTED

RETAIL PRICE TOO HIGH

'Ceylon producers have so far failed to take advantage of the promising field which Italy affords for a campaign to popularise Ceylon tea,' remarked Dr. R. Catelani, the director of extensive tea and cinchona plantations in Java, owned by the Italian Government, in the course of an interview with a representative of *The Ceylon Observer*.

Dr. Catelani arrived in Colombo by the Dutch steamer *Johan Van Oldenbarneveldt* on his way to Java for an annual inspection of the Italian Government's estates in that country.

There is no doubt, said Dr. Catelani, that the Italian people show a greater preference for coffee, but if Ceylon tea is widely advertised all over the country and brought within the reach of the poorer classes by lower prices, there is no reason to fear that Ceylon tea will not have a profitable market in Italy. The enjoyment of tea in Italy is a luxury, he said, owing to the exorbitant prices which the people have to pay for it. The lowest price for inferior quality Ceylon tea is approximately Rs. 7·50 a pound in Ceylon money. In spite of the fact that tea-drinking is too expensive for the Italian masses, nearly 300,000 pounds are consumed annually.

Ceylon producers would do well, he continued, to devise ways and means of supplying tea to Italy at the lowest possible prices. At present, prices are so high because the tea passes through several hands between the producer and the consumer, so that when the tea reaches his country, middlemen have reaped large profits, which naturally enhance prices.

AFRICAN TOUR

Dr. Catelani has just concluded a tour of North and West Africa, where he studied, on behalf of the Italian Government, conditions of the tobacco industry in these parts. He is the Director of a Government Department which controls a monopoly for the sale of tobacco in Italy, his department being in charge of 35,000 hectares of tobacco plantations, the produce of which is used for local consumption.

Speaking of his observations made during his African tour, Dr. Catelani said that tea was a favourite of the large Muslim population of North Africa, but unfortunately the only variety preferred by them was green tea.

The population of West Africa is not averse to drinking black tea, but superior quality teas were beyond the reach of a large majority of the people owing to poverty.

Dr. Catelani expects the tea plantations in Java to yield a big profit this year, when the first crop will be produced. A large tract of land was purchased by the Italian Government a few years ago for the cultivation of tea, and this is the first time that a crop will be gathered.

'TEA MARKETS IN THE PAST QUARTER'

The tone of the market at the beginning of May was less unsatisfactory than had appeared likely some weeks earlier. The previous quarter had closed with a relatively good general demand, fairly steady prices, and a somewhat improved London statistical position as a result of a substantial increase of about 27 million pounds in deliveries since the new year. In the early sales of May, the market for Indian teas remained steady, but all but the finest Ceylons were slow of sale and showed a 1*d.* to 2*d.* decline. As the month proceeded, it became evident that the offerings of Ceylon teas were increasing ominously. Appreciable quantities of tea which one would normally expect to be sold in Colombo were, in fact, being offered in London. By the third week of May it was clear that the quantities were sufficiently heavy to overstrain the market, and, inevitably, the prices of all but the best qualities were forced down. The effect of the heavy offerings was not confined merely to Ceylons, but tended to drag down also the values of Southern India teas. Elsewhere the tone before the Whitsun holiday was quite satisfactory; all high-grade tea sold well, on a full value, though the Whitsun sales closed with some irregularity for plain and low-priced Indian tea. Javas were in sustained demand, medium teas in particular meeting good competition and showing fractional advances.

After the Whitsun holiday, much more irregular conditions were experienced. The best teas sold readily and well, but the demand for other grades and qualities showed a perceptible easing as the week progressed, the large offerings of Ceylons again provoking much comment. The course of the opening sale of New Season teas in Calcutta was not without interest as a 'pointer' of coming events. The demand for the best kinds was strong, but medium and common teas had mostly to be withdrawn after meeting a poor request, and low grade teas were largely neglected.

Although at this point it might have been possible to limit the incipient tendency towards lower prices if offerings had been carefully regulated by reference to the state of the market, the number of packages offered, far from being limited, reached such large proportions that it became almost a physical impossibility for the trade to give proper attention to it. In the second week of June, over 195,000 packages were offered, including nearly 40,000 packages from Ceylon. To cope with these unwieldy supplies, the equivalent of three full days' strenuous activity was called for in the auction room alone, and a wholly inadequate time remained, in the rest of the week, for the indispensable tasting and valuing of the further heavy supplies catalogued for the ensuing week. The inevitable result was a partial demoralisation of the market, prices collapsing on the average by as much as 1½*d.* for practically all teas. The worst sufferers were Southern Indians, which showed an average decline of no less than 4½*d.* on the week, the shrinkage in individual offerings ranging from 1*d.* to 7*d.* according to quality and grade. The total offerings in the third week of June were within 5,000 packages of the previous week's total, and an overloaded, unwilling and tired market, put down prices still further, for everything except a very few fine teas. Southern India and Ceylon again bore the chief brunt of unfavourable conditions, the average for the latter teas falling from 1s. 1·35*d.* to 11·57*d.* Low-priced teas from all centres, however, suffered badly, large quantities of Northern Indias, for example, sold at or below 5*d.*, a quotation of 4*d.* being actually recorded in one instance.

That heavy offerings were responsible, more than any other factor, for the very serious depreciation of values, was shown by the behaviour of the market in the following week, when a drop of nearly 15,000 packages in the week's offerings at once produced a better tone, though prices showed no improvement except as regards the lowest varieties selling up to 5d. A disappointing feature was the poor demand for new season's Darjeelings, only the very best of which met even a moderate enquiry. In the last days of June, with a further reduction in offerings, the sales passed with a good demand for low-priced teas, but considerable irregularity in medium to good qualities. Ceylons were again lower, while Southern India teas were practically neglected, such sales as were made showing a further severe drop of about $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 2d. in quotations. At this period both Ceylon and India average prices were about 7d. below last year's levels—a far heavier shrinkage than was recorded either for Northern India or Java.

The tone of the market in July was, on the whole, more satisfactory than in June. Offerings at the beginning of the month were of moderate dimensions in the aggregate, but whereas supplies from Northern India were greatly reduced by reason of the approaching closing up of the crop, Ceylon again took the opportunity to offer very large quantities. The tone in the auction room, however, was distinctly better, and all low-priced tea was dearer. Although Southern India teas showed no improvement in quotations, Ceylon varieties which by any stretch of imagination could be considered to show a touch of quality, improved by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 2d. a pound. A less welcome feature, however, was the continued and severe downward course of some of the good-class Assam Broken Orange Pekoes, while New Season's Darjeelings continued to meet an indifferent and erratic market. In the following week, the market as a whole again showed a firm tendency, despite the development of the European financial crisis. Ceylons were firmer all round, the tone being assisted by an improvement in quality. Assam Broken Orange Pekoes recovered about $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1d. of their previous serious decline, but the reception of Darjeelings was again extremely disappointing, only the best varieties obtaining any support, while withdrawals of ordinary teas were heavy. The most noteworthy effect of the European financial difficulties was a slump in whole leaf teas of export type.

Despite unsettled external conditions, values continued to advance in the third week of July, though the continued small offerings from Northern India, with the close of the selling season for the 1930 crop at hand, were again more than counterbalanced by offerings from Ceylon. These for the second week in succession were well over the 40,000 level. All grades of tea, however, shared in a rise of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 3d. in value, according to grade and quality, the lower fraction representing the improvement in all common teas, including those of Java and Sumatra. Once again new Darjeelings were an unwelcome exception to the general trend. Their prices, certainly, were affected by abnormally poor Continental demand, but otherwise the difficulty in finding buyers even at the low prices prevailing could scarcely be entirely explained away by reference to poorer quality. The teas reaching London were, it is true, of relatively plain quality and inferior to last year's first flush. The latter, however, was a 'vintage' crop, which may not recur for some years, and there is reason to anticipate a scarcity of fine choice-flavoured teas from Darjeeling in the near future.

The closing sales of the month cleared from sellers' hands last year's crop from Northern India. The final offerings were therefore small, but

the big supply of over 46,000 packages of Ceylon tea brought the total to a fair figure. Little change occurred in either growths of India or Ceylon. The tendency, on the whole, was firmer as regards low-priced tea, while the best Ceylons, which showed improved quality, were rather dearer. Darjeelings, however, once again met an extremely erratic and uncertain market, and for the most part were lower. Export orders were scarce. Javas proved rather slow of sale, but showed little change in price, such slight movements as occurred being in favour of buyers.

—*The Rubber and Tea Quarterly.*

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RUBBER MARKETS IN THE PAST QUARTER

The past quarter provided a further three months' experience of the application of the iron law of the 'survival of the fittest' to the rubber plantation industry. Prices opened in May at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ and within a week had touched $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ The firmer tone of the market was welcome, partly as confirming the views of those who had maintained that, even under current conditions, the rock-bottom price for rubber was in the neighbourhood of $3d.$, and partly because it reflected a greater readiness to do definite business on the part of buyers as well as sellers. The rise was due to a real increase in trade demand, appreciable buying being done for Russian account. In the following week, when values touched $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ before falling to $3d.$, American demand was more in evidence, though the returns of American consumption revealed a stagnant position in the industry. Other commodity markets, to whose movements the speculative side of the rubber market is always sensitive, were heavy and disappointing.

On the failure of trade buying to maintain its slight spurt, and the completion of short covering by an important speculative interest, values at once slipped back. Before the Whitsun holiday, the undertone was unsteady. Support emanating from New York (reflected at one time in a price of $3\frac{3}{4}d.$), was distrusted. The statistical position gave no room for optimism, Eastern exports showing only a slight reduction, and consumption only sporadic and entirely unconvincing evidence of revival.

Similar conditions obtained in the last week of May after the holiday, though rubber still held obstinately at $3d.$, or a fraction over. By this time, hopes of a rather more than seasonal spring upturn in American general trade activity, had once again been falsified, the leading indicators, such as the volume of steel production, having shown a slow but unmistakable recession. The weakness of other commodity prices had also been accentuated, the end of the month being noteworthy, for example, for a sharp decline in cotton quotations.

Despite the unfavourable outlook, the behaviour of the market at the beginning of June was not without its reassuring features. The May estimates of American consumption were not worse than was expected, and the conflicting unofficial reports regarding the attitude of the Dutch Committee towards restriction served, on balance, to sustain rather than

depress quotations. Ostensibly, prices showed signs of temporary stability, with a suggestion that they might develop unsuspected powers of resistance to ill news, while remaining open to improvement on favourable developments. Actually, any probing below the surface revealed an anxiety which belied this favourable diagnosis.

Before the end of the month, however, the market received an altogether unexpected instalment of good news in the shape of President Hoover's proposals for a year's holiday as regards war debt payments. At the outset, the market permitted itself the hope that the announcement might be the turning point in the long-drawn-out 'catastrophic phase' of the world business depression. The news also served, opportunely, to distract undue attention from disquieting rumours from Holland, that the long-awaited report of the committee on rubber restriction would be found merely to reveal a sharp division of opinion, express a few pious aspirations, and leave the problem, for all practical purposes, exactly where it was before. Unfortunately, the psychological effect of the Hoover proposals was marred by uncertainty as to their acceptance by France, and during the period of haggling, rubber, after touching 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ d., just before the end of June, tended to fall back.

A slight recovery followed the ultimate acceptance of the terms of July 7, but by this time the market had abandoned all hope of a speedy transformation of the trade position with the help of 'politics,' and was beginning to be overshadowed by doubts as to the German financial position. The week beginning on July 20 was one of crisis in the money markets of Western Europe, when fears of an immediate financial collapse in Germany reacted on the rubber market, as on all parts of the City of London. At one time, rubber was dealt in as low as 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ d., but for the most part buyers and sellers preferred to hold their hands and await the outcome of the bankers' and politicians' efforts to redress the situation. Business fell to very small proportions, and was not helped by the American consumption figures, which testified to a stagnant situation in the face of large arrivals of rubber, or by the publication of the Dutch report, which confirmed earlier pessimistic forecasts as to its tenor.

Though catastrophic international developments were avoided, the crisis only slowly resolved itself, and dealings in the rubber market consequently remained restricted until the end of the month. Buyers' and sellers' ideas of prices at times showed more than a normal disparity, and New York, which had initially shown more enthusiasm than London for the Hoover proposals, was in a correspondingly depressed mood and gave little support to prices. The drain of gold from London caused unfavourable comment, and the raising of Bank rate on July 23 and July 30 was accepted, in the market, as a lesser evil. On the other hand, Russia, always an enigma, appeared in the rôle of a supporter of prices, the influence of her large inquiries being seen in a slow recovery of quotations to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The quarter closed, however, with prices no better than 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ d., the market showing no power to sustain quotations once the buying for Russia had been satisfied. The falling tendency continued after the August holiday, when a 'record' low level of 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. was touched at one time.

CORRESPONDENCE**Haddon Hill School, Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon***The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.***DEAR SIR,**

My two sons were at the above school for sometime under Mr. E. T. Davis and I cannot speak too highly of the care which was then shown to them. They made excellent progress at Haddon Hill and this was of the greatest use to them when I took them home in 1926 and they went to Preparatory Schools in England. I will be very glad if my name is included in the list of those who recommend this school to Parents in S. India, who may consider sending their children there.

CLUB ANNEXE, OOTACAMUND,**S. INDIA,***August 24, 1931.***Yours, etc.,****R. W. LEVETT.****Dry Spraying***The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***SIR,**

In your issue of August 29 is a letter from Mr. W. A. Lee about spraying. He says 'Articles of British make ought—*ceteris paribus*—to be preferred to those of foreign suppliers', and gives a list of English firms, of which Messrs. Cooper, Pegler and Company is one. I think it right to point out that this firm is an agent for spraying machines manufactured in France, and does not manufacture its own. The other one mentioned certainly does.

TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE**OF CEYLON (LABORATORY),****ST. COOMBS,****TALAWAKELLE, CEYLON,***September 3, 1931.***Yours, etc.,****C. B. REDMAN KING.****Rainfall Statement***The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'***DEAR SIR,**

In an August in which rainfall has been generally excessive and even disastrous in places, it must be gratifying to record that some districts have escaped very lightly. They may even be suffering from drought.

We read for instance in the weekly rainfall statement, August 9-22, inclusive—

	First week	Second week	Total
Somwarpet	Nil	Nil	Nil
Saklaspur	Nil	Nil	Nil

Now I happen to live somewhere between Somwarpet and Saklaspur, yet, by the mysterious ways of Providence, I have been cursed with first week 14·05, second week 13·82, total 27·87.

A nasty, suspicious person might say that if some people poured the liquid out of their rain gauges instead of—but let us be charitable and hope that these districts are wetter inside than they appear to be outside.

Yours, etc.,

September 2, 1931.

L. N.

[We regret our correspondent should have been deceived by the ambiguous series of dots shown under 'Somwarpet' and 'Saklaspur' stations in the Fortnightly Rainfall Statement. To anyone not having the good fortune of living in that neighbourhood, these series of dots might have conveyed to their mind one of two things :

- (a) That there had been no rainfall.
- (b) That there had been no return of rainfall.

'L. N.' however having the advantage of living in that neighbourhood could not have been so deceived, and with that characteristic solicitude of his for others, deserves our thanks for bringing the point to our notice. In future the dots will represent no rainfall and when no return (as is so often the case) is received, the letters 'N. R.' shall be inserted. If we may suggest it, perhaps our correspondent will be so kind as to supply us in future with some details and then we shall know exactly how wet this district is, at any rate from the outside.—*Editor.*]

DISTRICT NOTES

NILGIRI-WYNAAD

Proceedings of an extraordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association, held at 11 a.m. on August 10, 1931, at Gudalur Rest-House.

Present :

Messrs. R. M. Nicolls (*Chairman*), C. K. Pittock, B. St. J. Boultbee, A. L. Lang, J. E. Hancock, G. W. Fulcher, G. Bayzand, J. E. Bisset, C. W. Burgess, J. C. Osborne, D. T. Merson, R. B. C. Arthur, R. M. Greig, J. C. Anderson, N. L. S. Wright, B. Henny and A. N. Scott Hart (*Honorary Secretary*).

PROCEEDINGS

Notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

I. Members enquired of Mr. Pittock whether he had received any satisfaction from the District Board with regard to the condition of the roads in our District. Mr. Pittock informed the members that this question had been strongly represented at the last meeting of the Board, and that the

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Aug. 13, 1931	January 1 to Aug. 13, 1931	January 1 to Aug. 13, 1930
(A) TEA (Week ending Thursday, Aug. 13 and 20, 1931, respectively.)				N. India	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
				S. India	a 0 9·46	b 0 10·87	1 2·14
(a) Anamallais—		s. d.		Ceylon ...	a 0 7·45	b 0 11·75	c 1 3·03
Sholayar	115	0 10 (20)		Java ...	1 1·50	1 2·74	1 6·56
Gajam Mudi	255	0 8½ (20)		Sumatra.	0 6·39	0 7·43	0 10·05
Nalla Mudi	224	0 8½ (20)		Nyassa- l a n d .	0 6·53	0 7·95	0 11·22
Anai Mudi	194	0 8½ (20)		Total... d 0 10·64	e 0 11·66	f 1 2·97	
Thoni Mudi	245	0 8 (13)					
*Stanmore	171	0 7½ (13)					
(b) Central Travancore—							
Arnakal	104	0 8½ (20)					
"	87	0 8½ (13)					
Fairfield	98	0 8½ (20)					
Mount	105	0 7½ (20)					
Pitmed	42	0 7½ (13)					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Thenmallay	70	1 2½ (13)					
Silent Valley	55	1 1½ (20)					
*Yellapatty	224	1 0½ (20)					
*Sevenmallay	114	1 0½ (13)					
"	117	0 11½ (20)					
*Vagavurai	133	0 11½ (13)					
Pullivassal	36	0 10½ (13)					
*Periavurai	150	0 10½ (20)					
Kalaar	67	0 10½ (13)					
Nettigudi	112	0 10 (13)					
(d) Nilgiris—							
Prospect	180	1 8½ (20)					
"	180	1 6½ (13)					
Nonsuch	99	1 6½ (13)					
Pykara Falls	30	1 4½ (13)					
*Nonsuch	95	1 4½ (20)					
Ihex Lodge	76	1 4½ (13)					
"	48	1 1½ (20)					
Bhawani	95	1 1½ (13)					
*Woodlands	120	1 1½ (13)					
Glendale	108	1 1½ (20)					
Glen Morgan	179	1 0½ (13)					
Glendale	144	1 0½ (13)					
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad—							
*Seaforth	177	0 7½ (13)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 10,490 b 173,466 c 205,178
 d 86,267 e 2,579,928 f 2,516,766
 g 10,117 h 183,583 i 212,567
 j 85,220 k 2,665,148 l 2,603,641

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, September 8, 1931, was 2 $\frac{1}{16}$ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, September 5, 1931, were 81,011 tons, a decrease of 564 tons on August 29, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, September 5, 1931, were 55,239 tons, a decrease of 370 tons on August 29, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.



Built by Dunlop

For Buses & Trucks —

*A New Range of
Heavy Duty Giants
— built by Dunlop*

30 x 5 H.D. Giant.

32 x 6 ,, ,,

34 x 7 ,, ,,

AND FULL RANGE OF SIZES.

Special Improvements:—

1. **Oversize Section**—a larger tyre to provide greater security from risk of damage by overloading and also to increase riding comfort.
2. **Thicker Tread**—of compounded rubber which resists the cutting effect of stones, the effect of high temperature, and the wear due to fierce acceleration and braking.
3. **Stronger Casing**—made of heavy cotton cord fabric—specially made to secure maximum resistance to stone bruises and road shocks.

*Dunlop Heavy Duty Giants can
be bought at the same prices as
other Heavy Duty Tyres.*

For further particulars apply

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD., MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

The following report on the Madras Market is made available to us through the courtesy of Messrs. Huson Tod & Co :—

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, September 10, 1931

Planting.—With the exception of one or two isolated transactions in sterling Rubber, the market in this section was completely dead.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight	
		£	s.	d.		
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0	2	6
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0	6	3
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0	6	0
4. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1	7	6
5. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0	7	4
6. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0	3	9
7. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	2	6
8. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0	12	0
9. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	6	3

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	1	2
Cochins Rs. 15	...	8
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	6
Halleburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	15	17½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	Noml.
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	2
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	10	11
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	...	27
(Rs. 15) Nonparticipating	...	19
Periasholas Rs. 10	12 as.	1
Periyars Rs. 10	1½	3
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	3	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	75	80
Vellamalaik (Rs. 15)	...	11

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on September 1, 1931, amounted to 2,034,240 Iba. Demand for good and fine kinds was maintained at about last rates, otherwise the market was irregular and easier for all other grades except common Orange Pekoes. NUWARA ELIYA AND MATURATA. Some nice invoices were on offer for which about last prices were paid, but buyers followed the course of quality carefully. HIGH GROWN. Uva sorts continued in good demand especially fine flavoury invoices, rates comparing favourably with last, but other growths were rather irregular and tended easier. MEDIUM GROWN. The better qualities met with good competition at generally firm

rates, but light liquoring parcels and leaf grades were easier. Low GROWN. The market was easier for this class of tea, with the exception of Orange Pekoes which were about steady, and in fair demand. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. Good and fine kinds were fully firm, others easier. The market is now closed until September, 15th.

South Indian Teas in Auction of August 25, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates			Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai	...	...	12,210	80
Madupatty	...	...	9,284	60
Chulika	...	...	10,230	25

RUBBER.—About 125 tons were offered at the Auction held on August 27, 1931, and prices were slightly further down. There was only a very small supply of Standards available. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet was mostly taken out at 10½ cents bid showing a decline of ½ cent on last week's prices. Fair quality Sheet also showed a ½ cent decline while Off and Inferior quality Sheet was ½ cent easier than previously. Contract Crepe sold well at 11 cents showing no change on last week's rates and a few lines realised 11½ cents. Off and Mottled sorts met with a good enquiry at about last Auction prices. There was a good demand for all grades of Scrap Crepe but best sorts were ¼ cent easier and inferior sorts ½ to ¾ cent easier. Inferior earth sorts were about steady. Very little Scrap was available and this grade may be quoted at about/-/06 cents.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

August 23, 1931 to September 5, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total.	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor .	0·54	...	0·54
2. Kalthuritty.	9·28	N.R.	N.R.	25. Kotagiri ..	0·78	0·01	0·79
3. Kallar Bdge.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	26. Ootacamund ..	0·96	0·15	1·11
4. Koney ...	12·67	1·60	14·27	27. Yercaud ..	0·70	0·40	1·10
5. Pattanapura.	11·34	1·20	12·54	28. Mango Range ..	6·66	0·46	7·12
6. Kumbazha ...	11·99	1·41	13·40	29. Devala ...	18·61	N.R.	N.R.
6a Peravanthan.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola ..	3·71	0·75	4·46
6b Aneikolam...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	31. CALICUR ..	8·51	1·63	10·14
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ...	14·82	2·77	17·59
8. Twyford ...	25·49	4·01	29 50	33. Vayitri ..	16·21	2·01	18·22
9. V'periyar ...		7·83	7·83	34. Manantoddi ..	9·05	3·28	12·33
10. Kalaar ...	19·96	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ..	2·53	0·87	3·40
11. Chittuvurrai	1·45	0·58	2·03	36. Sidapur ..	1·85	N.R.	N.R.
12. Bodr'KANUR	0·75	...	0·75	37. Ghatted Hullu ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	12·60	2·14	14·74	38. Pollibetta ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
14. Moopy ...	12·58	0·93	13·51	39. Somwarpett..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	9·86	0·85	10·71	40. Sankaspur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	19·82	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamanie ..		35·85	35·85
17. POLLACHIE	0·85	0·09	0·94	42. *Balehonnur...			
18. Nell'pathy...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	43. Merthisubgey.	6·59	3·48	10·07
19. Karapara ..	13·05	N.R.	N.R.	44. Kelagur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
20. Pullengode..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	45. Durgadbettta.	5·06	2·88	7·94
21. Nilambur ...	11·99	0·84	12·83	46. MANGALORE ..	7·41	1·50	8·91
22. Naduvattam	6·51	N.R.	N.R.	47. MADRAS ...	1·22	0·06	1·28
23. Nilgiri Peak	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.				

N.R. = No Return received.

* Balehonnur fortnight ending August 29, 1931 = 11·70 in.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 20]

September 26, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

SO far as Planting Circles are concerned, one of the repercussions of the Gold Standard decision is the general improvement in commodity prices amongst which Rubber is Active, the Spot price rising immediately from $2\frac{5}{16}$ d. per lb. on the 19th instant to $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. on the 21st.

Suspension of the Gold Standard in Britain This increase is a natural sequence of the advance of the Bank rate, and a general spirit of optimism has been created. The fact that the rupee will be maintained on a sterling basis is re-assuring as the essentials of the present Indian Currency System will be maintained, and so far as can be seen, trade between India and Great Britain will not be affected though some rise in the cost of raw materials consumed in Great Britain can be expected.

The declaration by the Government of India that September 22nd, 23rd and 24th should be public holidays, although naturally not popular with the business community, was inevitable in that it enabled Government to conclude certain arrangements with a view to restoring an atmosphere of calm in business circles, and so far as Madras was concerned, the streets where Banking and Commerce are carried on, wore a forlorn and unusual appearance on those days, being reminiscent of a Sunday.

Madras, of course, recalls similar financial disturbances when the Gold Standard was discarded in 1914 and adopted again in 1925. The disturbance in those years was not such a financial crisis as now but the general trend of opinion here is that there is no cause for alarm, that the rupee will harden and the value of sterling increase with a result that Exports from India to other countries such as America and the European continent will

receive a fillip because the price of the rupee in Gold to those places will have fallen.

The basis for future stability has been laid and perhaps this crisis will prove the turning point in the general trade depression which has overwhelmed the world for some time past.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

TEA AND COFFEE CAN WORK AS PARTNERS

The idea that tea and coffee are fighting one another for supremacy in the American market is dispelled in an article in the latest issue of *India Tea Tips*, a four-page leaflet issued by the Indian tea-growers. It is stated that there is not much ground for the statement that America is essentially a coffee-drinking nation. They may, as a people, be more coffee-conscious, due to the large sums spent by coffee interests each year to make them so, but the bean of Latin-America has not made long strides ahead of its partner, the leaf of the Orient. The current U.S. consumption of tea is, approximately, 150 cups *per capita*, while coffee enjoys a per person consumption of about 375 cups, which is in the ratio of 1 to 2½. These figures are significant. The combined consumption of tea and coffee totals a modest 3½ cups *per capita* daily. As the human system demands much more liquid than that amount in order to function correctly, where, then, is the saturation point for either drink? Why should coffee and tea be set against each other? 'There are scores of less beneficial beverages being consumed by our America people. We are great "guzzlers" of all manner of drinks . . . and little do we question how good what we consume is for us. Our field, as tea-sellers, is toward that great group of persons who partake of countless beverages other than coffee. When we make tea as available as are these innumerable other drinks, when we present tea with specific mention of its merits, then we can make greater inroads on really worthwhile markets. Coffee and tea fight? No! They might better direct their energies to securing part of the gallonage potential that now goes to synthetic and doubtful beverages.'

—*The Home and Colonial Mail.*

PROSECUTIONS FOR DEFECTIVE TYRES

All who have at heart the need for reducing the tragic toll of life exacted by the growth of modern traffic, as well as the good name of automobilism, will welcome the more frequent convictions of motorists for having contributed to road casualties by using defective tyres. The law has been slow to act upon the clauses in the new motoring regulations that insist upon cars being fitted with tyres in good condition, and hold motorists responsible for ignoring this safeguard. No one who is familiar with the perils of greasy surfaces can be blind to the importance of this provision. The danger is, of course, shared by the motorist who trusts his life to tyres with the treads worn flat; still, if the safety of himself and his car were alone concerned it would be a matter between him and his insurance office. The consequences are not so restricted. Skidding is a prolific source of road fatalities and is largely the result of ineffective tyres. In these days of general impecuniosity the inducement to run tyres longer than their condition justifies is much stronger than usual, and the practice at the present

time is prevalent. Moreover, it may be difficult for magistrates to decide at what precise point a tyre ceases to be serviceable. Nevertheless, the responsibility of motorists for using defective tyres should be enforced when it can be shown that the latter were a contributory cause of an accident.

—*Rubber Age.*

SELLING USED TYRES

A considerable trade is done in America in the sale of used tyres and tubes, and although it is to the advantage of all in the rubber trade to sell new tyres wherever possible, the sale of a partly-worn tyre is a better proposition than no sale at all. Another aspect is that the business does help in persuading hesitant buyers to take a new cover, for the agent can offer him a small rebate on his used cover, if in fair condition, provided he has reasonable hope of effecting a re-sale. The average stock of used tyres one sees at an average stores consists of a heap of motor tyres and giant pneumatics jumbled together, and very often the salesman has no fixed idea of what he wants for a particular tyre. American practice is to mark all worn tyres plainly with the price, allowing about two shillings off an ordinary motor tyre if the buyer fits it himself. Used tubes are boxed up in new boxes taken from the new tubes fitted at the stores, and the presentable appearance often leads to a sale which would not be effected from the scrap heap.

—*The India-Rubber Journal.*

THE INDIAN TEA CESS

(Tuesday, September 8th)

The tea planting industry in Ceylon ought to be grateful to the Indian Tea Cess Committee. The large sums of money spent by the Indian body in America in endeavouring to stimulate a liking for Indian tea have served to increase the sale of Ceylon teas. During the past four years, the consumption of Indian tea has increased by some four million pounds, but at the half-yearly meeting of the Indian Tea Cess Committee, the Vice-Chairman impressed upon the members the benefits Ceylon received. When a resident of Ceylon hears his country described as part and parcel of India, he is distinctly hurt, but for once in a way the association has been beneficial. Indian tea has been sold bearing the Map of India "Emblem," and, curiously enough, this "Emblem" has appeared on a much greater percentage of packages containing Ceylon tea blended with Indian tea than it has done on packages containing only Indian tea. The Indian Tea Cess Committee cannot be blamed for coming to the conclusion that this is not fair, and it is proposed in future to restrict the Map of India "Emblem" exclusively to packets containing Indian tea and, side by side with this, attention is to be focussed on demonstration work throughout the United States in connexion with cooking classes and domestic science classes. It is clear, however, that in India there is very considerable dissatisfaction in regard to results of the American campaign, and, at the half-yearly meeting, it was decided, after the present sum of £50,000 has been expended, to curtail the money spent on propaganda work in the United States. The

announcement cannot be regarded as being particularly reassuring to those who consider the American campaign a waste of money. It is much too vague. It might mean that the allocation would be curtailed by £5,000 or it might be that it is intended to cut it down to half. The situation is an unhappy one. Some time ago, the *Planters' Journal* bluntly accused the members of the Committee in London of bluffing the Indian Committee into spending more money in U.S.A. by supplying them with misleading figures regarding imports. The trouble is that actually the Indian organization has not the last say as to how the money shall be spent. Theoretically it is for the Tea Cess Committee in India to decide, but the heads of the Tea Cess in India are subordinate in their private capacities to the Tea Cess representatives in London, and the men in London seem to be convinced, as the Ceylon Association was convinced, that the United States offer the best market for tea propaganda work. In the circumstances, there are those in India who fear that what they have no hesitation in regarding as a waste of money will continue.

In the meantime, it is exceedingly interesting to note the determination of the Indian Tea Cess Committee to concentrate on expanding the Tea Cess campaign in India itself. In this connexion, the *Planters' Journal* emphatically states: 'It is in India that Indian tea will find its salvation,' and it is urged that the 'members of the Committee will allow no influences, however powerful,' to stop them utilizing as much of their resources as possible on encouraging tea drinking in India. For the year 1931 a sum of Rs. 7½ lakhs, out of which Rs. 1½ lakhs was earmarked for the scheme for a packing factory, has been allotted for work in India. As in Ceylon it is proposed to place a sound tea at a reasonable price within the reach of all. The scheme which recently came into operation provides for supplying stockers in selected areas with good sound tea put up in 20 lb. chests at eight annas a pound, which will be sold by these stockers to small shopkeepers at nine annas a pound for retail, and by the latter to the public at ten annas a pound. An active propaganda campaign is in progress in the villages with the aid of motor lorries. Tea is taken to the districts, the villagers are encouraged to taste it, shop-keepers are persuaded to stock it, and by this means it is hoped to create a habit where tea drinking has not been established. The scheme is of particular interest to Ceylon, for the Ceylon Tea Propaganda Committee, wisely, we contend, has come to the conclusion that on our own door-step we have a very valuable market provided it is developed and encouraged on practical lines. It should be borne in mind that schemes on these lines are of special importance in that, by finding a market for lower-priced teas, they will render assistance to a section of the tea industry most in need of help.

—*The Times of Ceylon.*

TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA

11,546 packages were offered in Auction on Thursday.

There was a strong demand. Common and low medium grades were firm to dearer.

Tippy and good liquorising sorts were wanted and made high prices, fine Orange Pekoes fetching up to 4s. 8d. and tippy Broken Orange Pekoes up to 5s. 1d.

—*The Produce Markets Review, August 29, 1931.*

DUTCH EAST INDIES TEA POSITION

An architect who builds upon sand must inevitably be held responsible to some extent for the collapse that will follow, and likewise Dutch East Indies tea producers are partly responsible for the present collapse in prices, which is in a large measure due to the faulty scheme of restriction, which was applied last year. This scheme was to eliminate the purchase of kampoeng leaf on European controlled estates as much as possible. Although the European estates curtailed their output, there was no actual decrease in production, as native owners of kampoeng tea sold their wet leaf to independent factory owners, mostly Chinese, who—having no gardens of their own—are dependent upon kampoeng gardens for supplies. These factories, in some cases, trebled their output with the increased amount of bought leaf that they were able to secure without competition from the European estate owners.

The scheme of restriction, which was under consideration for 1931, took into account kampoeng gardens, and it was intended that European estates should purchase the usual amount of kampoeng leaf and restrict on the total amount. This idea was, of course, basically sound and would cause a pronounced decrease in exports if put into effect. Unfortunately, the plan was not put into operation, and it soon became obvious that many estates would not be able to carry on in the face of a steadily declining market, unless overhead expenses, and, consequently, the cost of production were considerably reduced. Many estates decided to go in for a scheme of intensive plucking and heavier purchases of kampoeng tea, in order to produce the desired result. This policy soon became apparent through increased import figures, and is again a factor in deflating the market.

The export figures for January/May this year, as compared with other years, are as follows :

DUTCH EAST INDIES TEA EXPORTS			
January—May, 1928 to 1931—Hal Kilos			
1931	1930	1929	1928
57,634,878	55,677,702	55,794,514	50,910,950

The average price brought on the Batavia market for a medium quality crop at the beginning of this year was 45 cents and to-day it is only 27 cents per half-kilo. Many estates are now seriously considering the advisability of suspending production meanwhile, as this is judged to be more economical than continuing to sell at a loss of 10 to 15 cents per half-kilo.

It is the irony of fate that the independent factories, which were manufacturing so extensively last year, are now also unable to compete and produce profitably, with the result that many have closed down.

The outcome of the present scheme of working seems to be the production of a large quantity of nondescript tea and the partial elimination of better and commoner sorts. In regard to better grades, it can be safely anticipated that these will again revert to their old-style and quality when improved economic circumstances cause better demand for same.

It cannot be denied that most tea producers in this country are faced with a very serious problem at the moment, and many with the likelihood of ruin in the near future, unless prices take a sharp turn upwards, which at the moment seems more than unlikely.

We have not seen a really good dry weather season for some years, and meteorological predictions indicate that we will not have one this year. This cannot be regarded as altogether unsatisfactory, as the demand for colory types from all parts of the World now seems to outweigh the demand for the thin flavor types, which were in favour a few years ago.

Over the last few years, the Batavia Tea market has received considerably more support from Near Eastern countries, such as Iraq, Persia and Egypt. This has had the effect of keeping the market rather above London and Amsterdam parity, with the result that U.S.A. buyers at times have not found it always practicable to operate, but this is a circumstance that will automatically right itself.

—BARON SALAK in the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*.

COMMENTS ON THE WHITLEY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AS AFFECTING TEA IN BRITISH (SOUTH) INDIA

BY

ANON.

The publication in the *Chronicle* by Mr. James of the Commission's recommendations affecting plantation areas should lead to a careful study by each district of the whole report.

It should be remembered that social welfare and the general raising of the standard of living of the masses is receiving more and more attention in the Legislatures, both Central and Provincial. The Whitley Commission emphasises that its recommendations are intended as a general guide for steady improvement and did not contemplate wholesale alterations in the existing laws and rules being put into effect immediately and, in fact, recommend that this should not be done. With the present very rapid development of democratic government however and the probable extension of the franchise such legislation will be very popular and may be unduly accelerated. Even when the actual recommendations are confined to a certain class or industry, enthusiasm may make their application far more universal. As a case in point, the recommendations regarding employment of recruiting agents, who engage and in many cases secure the dismissal of employees, is to be restricted. This might be made to apply to our maistries and kanganies.

There are many recommendations that are to be applied to factories only that might well be made applicable to all plantation labour as industrial employees.

With such possibilities in view it would be as well to consider every item in the report that might be applied to plantations as well as those recommendations which are actually named as being applicable to us as tea planters.

Of the more general recommendations the following are examples:—
(The page numbers refer to the Report of the Whitley Commission.)

THE RESTRICTION OF RECRUITERS. (P. 24)

Dismissals can be controlled by the management but it is hardly possible for them to control individual recruiting in the villages. The difficulty might be overcome by delegating these powers to the Labour Department, the master bringing in the recruited coolies for registration and forwarding to the estate. As recruiting is almost entirely by families the special provisions recommended for women are unnecessary.

HOLIDAY ALLOWANCES. (P. 27)

In general, might lead to abuse but some concession might be considered for payment of, say, expenses to his village after completing 250 days work in any period of 12 consecutive months, with a guarantee of re-employment on his return.

EDUCATION. (P. 28)

If made compulsory, the cost to be shared between Government and estates.

The standard to be achieved might be better left to experts. Regular night schools for adults would seem hardly possible. Something might be done by school teachers to assist primary education among adults without official regulation.

MINIMUM WAGE. (PP. 211 and 391)

This possibility must be considered, it is definitely recommended for tea estates in Assam. Should this actually be made more universal it might be as well to press for a low minimum and a high average, which will enable all good coolies to earn higher wage, while the incapables would receive no more than a bare living.

The objection to a high minimum is that all are paid alike, good, bad and indifferent, there is no incentive to increase output and better earnings as few industries are capable of standing more than a certain average of wage payments.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF LIQUOR. (P. 222)

Each area should adopt regulations concerning sales suitable to itself, restricting the number of taverns and hours of opening.

The dangers of prohibition, which is specially mentioned, lie in illicit sales, smuggling and general incitement to lawlessness.

FOOD ADULTERATION. (P. 252)

Acts to be enforced, especially on those articles of diet on which the labourer depends. Ghee is especially mentioned.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH. (P. 253)

The possibility of a cess on industry towards the upkeep of the Indian Research Fund Association.

Taking the more particular recommendations from the article by Mr. James already mentioned, the hours of work and overtime in factories require very careful consideration.

HOURS. (PP. 44, 46, 47, 52, 55 and 56)

It is presumed tea would come under the heading of a 'continuous process factory' and so be allowed a 56-hour week. (A 48-hours week was pressed for by some members of the Commission.) Exemptions can be obtained, possibly, for a 60-hour week. The limit of working time is to be 10 hours a day. Intervals between working periods seem to present no difficulty or much change from the present rules.

'SPREADOVER'. (P. 47)

This is considered and rules laid down for one continuous period of rest during 24 hours of 11 hours. This, including breaks, allows for attendance at the factory for 13 hours. If an exemption could be obtained from this to a 12 or even 13 hour day with a complete rest period of 8 hours and, if necessary, maintain the statutory limit of working hours per week, it would benefit both employer and employed. Tea manufacture is a continuous process when it is once started but as the period during which the factory may be running varies every day with the amount of crop, a rigid rule of working hours may involve the employment of a whole new staff for perhaps an hour's or two hours' work. This exemption could be restricted to a period of six weeks. For the remaining period of 10½ months the rules would present no difficulty. It is only during a rush period which can, and does, vary from year to year usually being a short period between the months of March and June.

The minimum hours for children seems to contain no real difficulty or those rules governing the employment of boys between 15 and 16 years of age.

OVERTIME AND EXEMPTIONS. (P. 55)

The rules governing exemptions and overtime would appear rather ambiguous. In one place it seems to lay down very definite maximum hours of work per day and per week (page 44) and here discusses the payment of overtime in excess of these hours, mentioning 1½ times the rate for over 54 hours and 1½ times over 60. Children and Women could be excluded from the exemptions suggested.

SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS. (P. 55)

Uniform standards of exemptions for all India. This would not appear suitable for tea factories, as conditions vary very considerably even in factories in different districts in South India.

One other suggestion is that any exemptions allowed tea factories due to their peculiarities of a continuous process varying from day to day might be counter-balanced to the worker by some bonus or gratuity for leave after employment for so many days in the factory during twelve months which included the rush period. See page 80, advantage might be taken of the clause for special exemption to meet press of work in both seasonal and perennial factories.

Prevention of Dust (pp. 56, 84), Constructional safety (pp. 62, 86), first aid appliances (p. 64), certification of children (p. 87), small factories to come under the Act (p. 92), and the general rules for inspections, present no difficulties.

FINES. (P. 218)

Fining of children prohibited. A limit is placed of $\frac{1}{2}$ anna per rupee to be collected within a month. Proceeds of fines to be devoted to cooly welfare and posting of lists of errors and omissions for which fines can be levied, does not call for much comment except that the cutting of a day's pay for bad work would be limited to about one day per month. It is almost impossible to assess a value to such damage. One remedy would appear to be to stop his work the next day, which is not satisfactory, and, should he have intended not to work in any case, is no punishment.

INDEBTEDNESS. (CHAPTER XIII)

The whole of this chapter requires study, as all its recommendations apply to plantations (p. 400) in particular, suggesting that some assistance might be given by co-operative societies who will give loans which are guaranteed by two other members, the combined credit covering the amount.

ATTACHMENT OF WAGES AND IMPRISONMENT. (P. 232)

It is to be illegal to attach wages, imprisonment for debt is to be abolished, Co-operative Society balances are to be exempt from attachment, and (page 233) Summary proceedings in the Court to limit liability to money-lenders on unsecured loans after consideration of earnings and expenditure over a period of two, perhaps three years. In this connection it is difficult to see where any recovery is possible if labourers' wages are to be free from attachment (see page 232) or it may mean that future wages can only be attached after regular consideration by this summary court.

If this is so, how is it to be collected, say on a monthly payment of wages? Is the employer to remit a proportion of the wages due, after the monthly settlement, to the court? This may involve a lot of clerical work but how else is the money to be collected? The attendance of the money lender to collect the dues that he has been awarded by the decree is to be prohibited at the place of payment of wages (p. 235).

RECRUITMENT AND ADVANCES. (P. 236)

The expenses incurred in recruiting the cooly, and his travelling to the estate being irrecoverable, and the recovery of advances paid to him prior to his coming to the estate being confined to what may be recovered at the first wage payment, i.e. a fortnight or possibly a week, means the abolition of all advances or practically so. The labourer will be very rightly free to go where he will and when he likes. No reasonable objection can be raised against this. It should also be remembered that the employer will no longer be practically forced to employ and feed incapables, as he is under the old advance system, in order to recover his money.

Districts will have to consider the possibilities of a large and ever moving population of which good workers will always get employment and, it is hoped, will gradually settle down, but there will be others, the hopeless and incapable, who will gradually find no employment open to them, become settled beggars, even starving, spreading disease and filling the hospitals.

In a large industrial-city these are absorbed into the lower life of the town, become a charge on the municipality or similar body and are one of the inherent evils of industrial development. The possibility of their appearance in a planting district must be considered. Something might be done with a new vagrancy law.

PERIODS OF WAGE PAYMENT. (P. 236)

Very short periods of wage payments are recommended. A fortnight is to be the period with a minority demand for a weekly wage. The fortnight would appear to be neither one thing nor the other. A weekly wage, while not advocated, would enable us to abolish all rice and *selavoo* issues and the pay-sheet or check-roll would have no deductions whatever. If the cooly does not work he can buy himself no food. A fortnightly wage hardly allows for this when the improvident habits of the cooly are considered. The amounts payable would be too small to save or remit home, this would be more so with a weekly wage, and so probably be spent, wasted or lost.

A month's wage is worth remitting or saving. As far as plantation labour is concerned, fortnightly payments would appear to have no advantage. Coolies draw rice and cash for sundries weekly from the estate and are put to no hardship or forced into any debt in order to obtain the necessities of life as is the case in the industrial town, where he has to wait a month before he can draw any money. In fact that is the main reason for the reduction of the monthly payment to the fortnightly or weekly one.

The weekly wage is of no advantage and probably means the loss of a day's work if he has to go many miles for the purchase of supplies; it is more than probable that in this case he will not work the next day.

DATE OF PAYMENTS. (P. 241)

The payment of wages within 7 days of the due date presents no real difficulty but 10 would be better.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. (P. 301)

The inclusion of all plantation agricultural labourers under the Workmen's Compensation Act is recommended. There would appear no advantage in this at all. A few special works might be considered as being dangerous, such as felling a building over 15' high, etc., but there seems no call or demand or necessity for this.

Other clauses and alterations in workmen compensation show an increase in rates payable but affects us very little and the enhanced rates seem very fair and are actually far lower still, for accidents, than are usually paid voluntarily by estates.

HEALTH. (CHAPTER XXII)

Land to be made available where possible for growing vegetables and grazing. Antimalarial work undertaken with expert supervision; pure water supplies; Standard houses and lines for all new constructions; the lighting of areas round lines (hardly any advantage and merely very expensive); bathing and washing houses to be provided; mass treatment of hookworm; provision of latrines.

Except with regard to the proposal for lighting, no argument against any of these proposals would stand; if difficult to perform they are all good in themselves. Women doctors and midwives would seem to be

going unnecessarily far to start with—midwives possibly, but the employment of women doctors is made economically and usefully impossible by the large area to be covered unless there were several in each district. Free feeding of in-patients and maternity benefits call for no comment, being very similar to that now practised except that special light work might be provided for the period of 4 weeks before confinement, leaving it optional to the coolly, half pay and no work, or full pay doing light work. Health visitors would seem to be covered by the Health boards.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN. (P. 415.)

A limit of 10 years is put on the age of employment of children. There can be no hardship in a child going to work for a few hours a day and going to school for the rest. It helps the parents to increase the family earnings, and at any rate supplies the balance of food required for the children. The estate cannot reasonably be expected to support them entirely unless Government made the necessary grant. The compulsory education of children by the estate, with Government grants, is recommended, to which there can be no objection.

INSPECTIONS AND WELFARE BOARDS. (PP. 417-418)

This board to have a majority of planters, a medical officer with public health qualifications, one woman member and the Collector or his deputy. This board and its recommendations will have the force of the law behind it but is only to be interfered with in exceptional circumstances by Government. It is to be financed entirely by a cess on the industry, the estimated cost will be about 70,000/- annually which would cover all Hospitals, Medical Staff, etc., etc.

It is probable that most districts already spent more than this on their combined medical arrangements but the working of the new board and the rules by which it should be governed will require very careful working out. It should be possible that while all boards would work under the same principles, details could be made to vary for different districts.

STATISTICS. (PP. 444-50)

Registration of births and deaths, sickness, total numbers employed, men, women, children, earnings, living conditions, cost of living, loans and interest rates are all likely to be called for by authority and would seem inseparable from any process by Government.

LEGISLATION. (P. 457)

It is recommended that most of the legislation will be central after consultation with Provincial Governments. This makes it all the more essential that our case should be carefully prepared beforehand on all subjects as it is more than probable that a report called for by the centre will not allow sufficient time for careful consideration of the many small, though important, points by planters in the districts who alone have the knowledge of local conditions, and, who will have to carry them out.

In conclusion, the general principles underlying the report have been received with general approval. It lies largely with the planting community to see that the sound principles the recommendations contain are not spoiled in detail by mistakes in framing rules and laws for lack of the special knowledge we alone can supply.

SCIENCE IN THE INDIAN TEA INDUSTRY

By

DR. HAROLD H. MANN, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.L.S.

Assistant Director, Woburn Experimental Station

(Continued from our issue of August 15, 1931)

CONSTANT SUPERVISION RECOGNIZED

After Dr. Watt's work the question of the need for having regular scientific help in connection with the many problems which were rising in connection with tea culture, came more and more to the front. And I think that the depression in the tea industry at the end of the last century had something also to do with the resolution to meet this need—at any rate in a tentative fashion. The fact was that in spite of the abandonment of the older and more unproductive tea, the yield per acre hardly rose between 1890 and 1900, while there was a very great fall in the price. Certain diseases became more and more rampant. How to maintain tea gardens at full bearing capacity was a question of great importance. The production of quality in tea was little understood, and in this matter often there were very great and unexpected disappointments. Under these conditions, I was selected in the early part of the year 1900 to go to India as the first scientific officer of the Indian Tea Association. When I went to India, Mr. Bamber, to whom I have already referred, had recently been taken as adviser in Ceylon, but I think I may say that my appointment to India was the creation of the first scientific department wholly devoted to the study of the problems of tea cultivation and manufacture. The department as then constituted was a very small affair. The greater part of the cost was paid by contributions from the local Governments in India and from the local branches of the Indian Tea Association. I was allowed to work in the laboratory attached to the Indian Museum, Calcutta. And, for a time, I was alone, without even a laboratory assistant, in the work. But gradually the value of the scientific study of tea cultivation was realized and then the workers engaged on the study began to increase in number and the amount spent on the work became larger and larger. At present the Scientific Department of the Indian Tea Association is one of the largest maintained by any similar industry in the world. The central experimental station of this Department at Tocklai in Assam is visited by workers from all over the world, and is one of which the tea industry can well be proud. Unlike similar departments in many other industries, it is not largely maintained by means of Government subsidies, but is almost wholly supported by the tea industry itself. It now consists, according to my latest information, of a cadre of fifteen scientific workers, both Indian and English, and I think I may say that its influence on the progress of the tea industry has been almost incalculable.

So far, I have spoken of the organized scientific work in the tea districts of North-East India. Similar work has been organized in South India, and has achieved a good deal of success there. But I prefer not to speak in detail of the scientific organization there, as I have no direct personal acquaintance with it.

THE RESULTS ACHIEVED

What have been the results achieved by the application of scientific research and experiment under these organized conditions during the last

thirty years? I am far from suggesting that all the improvement which has taken place in tea cultivation and manufacture during that time, has been due to the results of experiments carried out under the auspices of these scientific departments, as well as those in other tea-growing areas like Ceylon and Java, for some of the greatest improvements to which I shall refer later, have been developed by highly skilled practical planters without special scientific assistance. But the effectiveness of the advice given has been great, and the experiments undertaken have been the means of introducing a large number of the most useful methods or modifications of methods commonly in use to-day.

It is curious too that the very marked increase in the crop of tea obtained per acre, which has been characteristic of the years since 1905, commenced very shortly after the establishment of the Scientific Department of the Indian Tea Association. This is shown by figures published by Mr. Carpenter, the present scientific officer of the Indian Tea Association, in 1929. They refer to Assam and Bengal for each five-year period since 1885, at any rate to 1924.

Period	Assam.		Bengal.
	lbs. per acre	lbs. per acre	
1885 to 1889	316
1890 to 1894	358
1895 to 1899	361
1900 to 1904	416
1905 to 1909	477
1910 to 1914	531
1915 to 1919	614
1920 to 1924	527
1924	576
1926	575
1929	603
			563

This certainly in all cases shows a very great increase. Even the lowest figures are far above the yield in the early days of tea, for the maximum amount of tea obtained in the Assam Company's gardens in 1848 was 275 lbs. per acre. But it will be noticed that the great increase occurs in the years after 1900 and particularly in the years after 1904. Comparing the yield per acre in Assam for 1895 to 1899 with that for 1926, there is an increase of 214 lbs. per acre or over 59 per cent. In Bengal, where the figures do not quite mean the same thing, owing to the larger proportion of tea grown in the plains in later years, there has been in the same period an increase of 173 lbs. per acre or 52 per cent of the earlier yield.

IMPORTANCE OF INCREASED PRODUCTION

The importance of this increase of yield to the tea industry cannot be over-estimated, for at even one shilling a pound it means an increase in gross return per acre of over £12 per acre in the case of Assam, and of nearly £11/10 per acre in the case of Bengal. Undoubtedly a considerable portion of this increase has been due to the larger proportion of young tea existing in the later years. But except in the war years, it is not due to coarser plucking, that is to say to the production of lower quality of tea.

The value of the scientific work has been shown in a number of different directions, of which I shall be only able to speak of a few. In the first place, we have learnt better than before the characters which are required in good tea soils, so that it would be now, I think, inexcusable if tea were

planted in unsuitable positions. This is important, for in another part of the world recently I have found it taken for granted, as it was in India in the earlier days, that where tea will grow, there it is likely to be a commercially paying crop. Even thirty years ago, I saw tea planted where nobody would put it nowadays, at any rate if they took competent advice. And there are few crops whose soil requirements are so specific as in the case of tea if a full crop is to be obtained. First, the soil must be acid—a most unusual requirement in agricultural crops. Again, a tea soil must be very deficient in lime—again a most unusual requirement. I have very often seen the addition of lime recommended on soils for tea, because this would be required by most agricultural crops. In the case of tea soils, I do not say that the application of lime is never useful. Far otherwise. But it is much more rarely useful than has usually been supposed, and than would be the case with most other crops. The absence of this knowledge has often led to useless or even injurious recommendations for the manuring of tea, but it was one of the earliest things I recognized when I began the systematic examination of tea soils thirty years ago.

QUALITY IN TEA

There is another result of the study of tea soils which is of interest. I found a good many years ago that the quality, and especially the flavor of tea seemed to be closely connected with the amount of useful phosphoric acid in the soil. In other words, the tea districts which gave high quality tea all had soils which contained a rather large proportion of this constituent. On the other hand, there were some districts at that time which, on this basis, should have produced much higher quality of tea than was the case, and I ventured to suggest that while the chance of producing a much higher quality of tea than was customary was small in some areas, in others, such as the Dooars, there was every reason to suppose that a much higher grade of tea was obtainable. Results have, in this case, justified the prophecy, and the special attention which was consequently paid to this matter in the districts in question.

But the assistance which has been rendered by scientific work has been specially great in the matter of tea-manuring. When I went to India in 1900 any systematic manuring of tea was in its infancy. Much use had certainly been made of peat and other forms of "bheel soil," and there was a certain amount of cattle manure and of oil-cake applied. But practically no artificial manures were used, and there was little recognition of the necessity of planning regular manuring of tea if the best results are to be obtained and the bushes saved from rapid deterioration. The recognition of this fact came only slowly, but all progressive planters understand it now, and there is at present a larger consumption of artificial manures in the Indian planting districts than, I think, in the whole of the remainder of the country.

There are certain features of this development of manuring, largely as a result of experiments done by the scientific departments to which I have referred and also by the scientific advisers who are now employed by a number of the large tea companies, which are particularly interesting. The first of these is the more complete use of green manuring than in any other agricultural industry. This method of manuring consists, as is well known, in growing a crop of some kind among the main crop, and when grown, burying this, in whole or in part, in the land, for the sole purpose that it may, by its decomposition, serve as a manure to the main crop. With tea, such manuring is done, not only with annual crops, but with bushes which

remain growing among the tea for several years and are periodically pruned and the prunings buried, and also with trees which remain permanently growing among the tea but which manure the ground with their leaves and also with the nitrogen they are able to fix from the air. Taking the last case first, I may say that the possibilities in this direction were first realized by the late Sir James Buckingham, whom all those who have been connected with tea for many years remember with respect and reverence. The trees which he used are still used, but the list has been largely increased, and the growing of such trees among tea, after many years of controversy is now well recognized in most districts as desirable, and as leading to a larger yield of leaf. Other forms of green manuring are now recognized as an essential part of any scheme of maintenance of tea at its highest pitch of efficiency.

Another feature of the development of tea manuring is that of a regular rotation of manures, differing, of course, on different classes of land, which have proved themselves of the greatest advantage in tea culture. In the Handbook of Information issued by the Scientific Department of the Indian Tea Association special prominence is given to this matter and very interesting details are given as to the stage when each constituent of manures is likely to be of advantage. These are important, for the production of a crop which consists of green leaf demands a very different set of principles from those we are accustomed to apply with more ordinary crops.

May I pause here to congratulate the present Scientific Officer of the Indian Tea Association, Mr. P. H. Carpenter, on the very great advances in the systematization of tea-manuring which he has made in the last few years? The result has been that I feel that tea-manuring is on, perhaps, a sounder basis than that with any other tropical crop.

—*The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.*

SAVING RUBBER TREES

PROTECTION AGAINST MILDEW

Mr. G. Bjoerklund, Swedish civil engineer, who has spent the last 10 years in the Dutch East Indies and is on a short visit to Sweden, plans the starting of a new industry for the purpose of saving the rubber trees in the world's rubber plantations.

Mr. Bjoerklund has invented a special powder, which can be blown up into the tree-tops and into the foliage of the rubber trees by the aid of an air-cooled motor with a specially constructed fan. In this way he succeeds in giving to the trees the much-needed protection against the devastating mildew, the 'oidium heveae,' which for years has been the scourge of the rubber plantations the world over. More than 200 of Mr. Bjoerklund's apparatus are now in use at Java, and the inventor is now planning to float a company in Sweden for the marketing of his powder and the spreading machine, which has already proved to be so efficient for its purpose. This new method means a saving of 100 per cent. on the cost of protecting the trees by the old methods to the plantation owners in the Dutch East Indies.

—*Rubber Age.*

TRAVANCORE PLANTERS

The rubber cultivators of Travancore, who are hard hit on account of the very low price of the commodity, had petitioned the Maharaja's Government that enhanced assessment on rubber estates might be held in abeyance and the amount of such tax recovered with arrears may either be refunded or adjusted towards the tax due from them in future. After due consideration, the Government have issued an order reducing the enhanced assessment. Government have now been pleased to sanction the reduction until further orders of tax on rubber lands from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 in all cases in which the tax is realisable at the former rate and to make this concession applicable to the tax due in 1106 too. The Committee appointed by the Government of Travancore to inquire into the economic condition of the people have submitted an *ad interim* report which contains, among others, the following recommendations : The Committee recommends the abolition of the export duty on tea, making up the consequent loss of revenue by increasing the income-tax. Among other resolutions passed by the Committee are the following : The Courts be instructed to exercise more sympathetically the discretion vested in them to postpone in all deserving cases the sale of immoveable properties against decree debts. That the Government should take immediate steps to inaugurate a Land Mortgage Bank in Travancore, under special legislation. Early steps should be taken towards the improvement of shipping facilities in the State's ports. Extension of time for the payment of monies due to Government under agricultural and industrial loans be granted to applicants found on proper inquiry to be unable to pay the amounts on the due dates on account of the economic depression. Arrangements be made with oil companies to supply kerosene and crude oils to cultivators in bulk at reduced rates. Travelling agents be appointed to tour India and find markets for the State's produce. A Trade Agent with sufficient experience be appointed to represent Travancore business interests in London.

—The Home and Colonial Mail.

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RUSSIA—A DWINDLING MARKET FOR EASTERN TEA

The Amtorg Trading Corporation, New York, the purchasing and sales agency in the U.S.A. for the Soviet Republics, supplies the following summary of the present position and future prospects :

The Soviet Union is one of the largest tea-consuming countries in the world. Because of this, the development of tea growing is of considerable significance for the country. The chief regions where tea plantations are to be found are the republics of Georgia, Adzharistan and Abkhazia.

Before the revolution the area of tea plantations in these sections was insignificant, and totalled 740 hectares (1,825 acres) in 1913. In recent years, however, much attention has been devoted to extending it, and the government has made available each year considerable sums for this purpose. The Centrosoyus (Central Union of Consumers' Cooperatives), which handles the bulk of the tea trade, is also aiding the development of tea cultivation.

The tea plantations in the country are under the direction of a special corporation. Chai-Gruzia (Georgian Tea), which was organised in 1925 with a capital of 5,000,000 roubles. The stockholders in this state corporation are the agricultural commissariats of Georgia, Adzharistan and Abkhazia, and the Centrosoyus. Tea culture is centralised largely in the hands of the Centrosoyus.

In the course of the last few years there has been a great increase in the area planted to tea. The total acreage of tea plantations in 1917 was 917 hectares. By 1925 it had grown to 1,325 hectares, and in 1928 to 3,995 hectares (9,850 acres). In 1929, new plantations with an area of 2,815 hectares were planted, bringing the total to over 7,800 hectares. Early in 1930 the area under plantations totalled 14,560 hectares (36,000 acres), an increase of 6,760 hectares. Of this increased area the state farms planted 2,560 hectares and the collectives 3,520 hectares. During the present year the area is to be increased by 10,000 hectares, 9,050 of which will be in the socialised (state and co-operative) sector.

FIVE-YEAR PLAN

The five-year plan of Georgian Tea estimated that the acreage of its plantations would be extended to an area of 75,000 hectares by the end of the period (1933). Soil and climatic conditions, however, make possible a much greater extension of tea cultivation than is shown by this figure. The realization of the five-year programme will result in a significant raising of the economic level of the entire western part of Georgia. At the present time there are over 50,000 peasant households engaged in growing tea.

ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE

The development of tea culture is being promoted by the state through the granting of long-term credits to poor and middle-class peasants in the form of money and seeds. The seeds are both domestic and imported, and although the price of imported (India and Ceylon) seeds is three or four times as high as that of Soviet seeds, the planters receive both at the same low price. The organization of peasants into collective farms has shown rapid progress in the tea sections of western Georgia.

Georgian Tea has organised several state farms, one of which has 587 hectares planted in tea, and another has 150 hectares in tea. These farms also plant oranges and bamboo.

Recently three experimental tea stations were established, a central station in Gur, and two branches in Adzharistan and Mingrelia. These stations are carrying on research to determine the best types of seeds and the best methods of growing, as well as to ascertain the most favourable regions into which to extend tea culture. In addition, the agronomic personnel of Georgian Tea is investigating the natural conditions of the Black Sea coast. The results of this study will show to what extent, at what tempo, and in which sections tea culture may be developed.

PRESENT AND FUTURE PRODUCTION

Domestic production of tea amounted in 1929 to only 240,000 kilograms, constituting less than 1 per cent. of the total tea consumption of the country. The quantity put on the domestic market in 1928-29 is estimated at

28,750,000 kilograms, of which black tea (bakha) made up 13,250,000 kilograms. In 1927-28 the consumption of the domestic market was 25,866,000 kilograms. Before the war the annual consumption of tea was about 60,000,000 kilograms, practically all of which was imported from abroad.

Production during the next few years is planned as follows : 1931, 800,000 ; 1932, 1,500,000 ; and 1934, 4,850,000 kilograms. By a decision of the Council of Labour and Defence, a special fund has been set aside for carrying out the tasks connected with the expansion of tea culture.

To manufacture the tea there are at present six factories in operation. By 1934 the number of factories is scheduled to increase to twenty-nine, and the production of those now in operation (over a million kilograms), will be considerably expanded.

Imports in 1928-29 were valued at 29,592,000 roubles (\$15,200,000), and in 1929-30 they showed a decline, totalling 23,390,000 roubles. The imports of tea at the present time are much smaller than before the war and the annual per capita consumption for 1928-29 amounting to 0.186 kilogram, although greater than in any previous year since the war, was less than half that of the pre-war per capita consumption (estimated at 0.440 kilogram). Prices of tea, which are officially regulated, have remained stable.

U. P. A. S. I. NOTES

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of HAROLD RANDOLPH BOWLING, Kumbazha Estate, Koni P.O., Travancore, who died suddenly at Neyoor on the 13th instant. The late Mr. Bowling started his career, planting in Ceylon, and came to South India in 1920, and at the time of his death was the Superintendent of Kumbazha Estate, the property of Messrs. The Malayalam Plantations, Limited.

* * * *

LABOUR DEPARTMENT—PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION'S SRIVAIKUNTAM AGENCY

Mr. M. G. Ghose, son of Sheik Mohideen Sahib of Ambasamudram has been appointed, from 1st September 1931, as Agent, Labour Department, Upasi, Paraikuttam, *vice* Mr. Noor Begg Sahib. Mr. Ghose's address is Paraikuttam, Narikinar, P.O., Kovilpatty Taluk.

PALAMCOTTAH,
September 18, 1931.

A. G. A. DUNNING,
Superintendent.

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT—MYSORE DIVISION
HINDUPUR AGENCY**

Subscribers are hereby informed that the services of Mr. L. Khasim, Labour Agent, Hindupur, have been dispensed with from the 20th instant. The appointment of a new agent will be notified in due course.

MYSORE,
September 23, 1931.

JAS. GRUNDY,
Superintendent.

COFFEE-SPRAYING COURSE

*Notification No. R.O.C. 698/Sc. 95 of 31-32
Dated September 7, 1931*

A short course on Spraying, as applicable to Coffee Estates, will be held on the Coffee Experimental Station, Balehonnur (Kadur District), from September 21, 1931, to the end of the month.

Estate owners, who desire to train themselves or their maistries, are requested to communicate with the Farm Manager, Coffee Experimental Station, Balehonnur P.O., as soon as possible.

Lodging will be provided on the Farm but those attending will have to make their own arrangements for food.

LESLIE C. COLEMAN,
Director of Agriculture in Mysore.

CORRESPONDENCE

Italy—A Potential Market for South Indian Tea?

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

I was interested to read the article on Italian Market for Ceylon Tea, which appeared in the last issue of the '*Planters' Chronicle*'. In March of this year I spent three weeks in the north of Italy and was very much impressed by the excellence of the tea which I was able to get in tea shops, restaurants and hotels. On enquiring where it came from I was told it came from India. On making further enquiries by going into shops in Rapallo, Santa Margherita and Genoa, I discovered that much of the tea sold came from the Nilgiris. I do not remember what the price was, but I was told by Italian friends that the tea drinking habit is steadily increasing. Certainly the inhabitant of North Italy, unlike the Frenchman, knows how to make good tea, and while Ceylon should certainly get its share, that should not be at the expense of South India.

MADRAS,
September 24, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
F. E. JAMES.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING JULY, 1931

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	...	...	282	...	126	...	3	...	...
Cochin	...	...	44	...	...	101	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...
Total	...	326	185,414	120	93,276	43	231	2,457	300
Previously...		5,490		48,752	9,883				4,854
Total cwts. since 1-1-31.	351,247	5,816	185,414	48,872	93,377	9,926	231	2,457	5,154
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Calicut	...	...	...	34,667	13,911	...	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	...	...	209,187	345,533	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	...	10,568	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	1,150	14,656	113,452	...	...	...
Total	...	35,817	248,322	458,985	69,505	...	159	269,160	...
Previously		226,595	2,367,086	4,109,824					
Total lbs. since 1-1-31.	7,785,453	262,412	2,615,408	4,563,809	69,505	...	159	269,160	...
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	...	...	980	...	...	...	885	...	...
Calicut	...	...	16,907	...	...	1,128	528	...	...
Cochin	...	...	52,141	48,028	1,745,679	...	...	...	1,000
Tuticorin	...	...	...	271,018	1,873,477	100	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	34	4,890	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	70,062	323,936	3,619,156	1,228	1,413	508	62,444	1,000
Previously		228,839	617,847	12,992,647	6,516	928			3,125
Total lbs. since 1-4-31.	17,929,619	298,901	941,783	16,611,803	7,744	2,341	508	62,414	4,125

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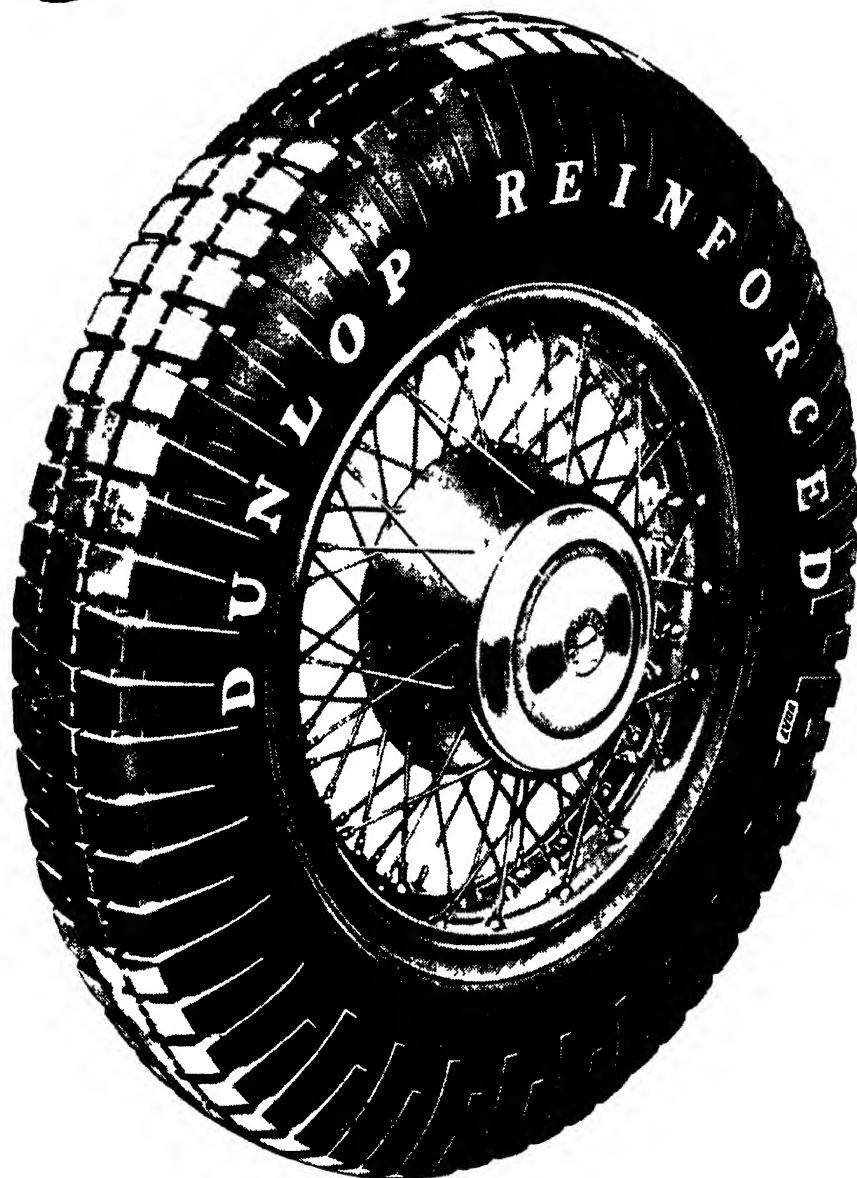
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IN A CLASS BY ITSELF

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Aug. 27, 1931	January 1 to Aug. 27, 1931	January 1 to Aug. 27, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, 1931, respectively.)				N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
				S. India.	a 1 2·97	0 11·04	1 2·21
				Ceylon ...	a 0 7·84	b 0 11·35	c 1 2·78
				Java ...	1 2·73	1 2·73	1 6·43
				Sumatra.	0 6·46	0 7·37	0 10·03
				Nyassa-	0 6·45	0 7·87	0 11·16
				l a n d .	0 4·89	0 6·94	0 9·32
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —		s. d.		Total...	d 1 1·16	e 1 1·71	f 1 2·96
'Thay Mudi	...	98 0 11½ (3)					
Nulla Cattu	...	119 0 10½ (27)					
Gajam Mudi	...	122 0 10 (3)					
Peria Karamalai	...	202 0 9½ (27)					
Sholayar	...	156 0 9½ (3)					
*Peria Karamalai	...	223 0 9 (3)					
*Stanmore	...	206 0 9 (3)					
Thay Mudi	...	287 0 8½ (27)					
Mukottu Mudi	...	294 0 8½ (27)					
Thoni Mudi	...	177 0 8½ (3)					
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i>				District	Week ending Sept. 3, 1931	January 1 to Sept. 3, 1931	January 1 to Sept. 3, 1930
Fairfield	...	39 1 1½ (3)					
Mount	...	54 0 11½ (27)					
Arnakal	...	149 0 8½ (27)					
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —					s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Chundavurrai	...	116 1 4½ (27)		N. India.	1 3·54	0 11·22	1 2·29
"	...	108 1 3 (3)		S. India.	g 0 8·07	h 0 11·20	i 1 2·70
Yellapatty	...	138 1 1½ (27)		Ceylon ...	1 3·35	1 2·75	1 6·40
Chittavurrai	...	94 1 0½ (27)		Java ...	0 6·60	0 7·35	0 10·02
Gundumallay	...	168 0 11½ (3)		Sumatra.	0 6·07	0 7·79	0 11·13
Yellapatty	...	162 0 11½ (3)		Nyassa-	0 5·74	0 6·91	0 9·30
Thenmallay	...	135 0 11½ (27)		l a n d .			
Guderale	...	75 0 11½ (3)		Total...	j 1 1·77	k 0 11·78	l 1 2·98
Chittavurrai	...	62 0 11½ (3)					
Periavurrai	...	329 0 11½ (27)					
Sevenmallay	...	152 0 11½ (3)					
Periavurrai	...	286 0 11 (3)					
Vagavurai	...	146 0 10½ (27)					
*Sevenmallay	...	127 0 9½ (27)					
*Chokanad	...	118 0 9½ (27)					
"	...	182 0 9½ (3)					
Nettigudi	...	126 0 9 (3)					
(d) <i>Nilgiris</i> —							
Prospect	...	180 1 10½ (3)					
"	...	180 1 9½ (27)					
Glendale	...	72 1 3 (3)					
Craigmore	...	150 0 11½ (3)					
Bhawani	...	108 1 1½ (27)					
Katary	...	16 0 10½ (3)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below:—

a 8,557 *b* 192,140 *c* 224,117
d 88,733 *e* 2,753,881 *f* 2,687,426
g 8,811 *h* 200,951 *i* 233,937
j 98,147 *k* 2,852,028 *l* 2,772,794

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Wednesday, September 23, 1931, was 3½ d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, September 19, 1931, were 81,048 tons, an increase of 37 tons on September 12, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, September 19, 1931, were 55,034 tons, an increase of 243 tons on September 12, 1931, inventory.

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—South Indian Teas in Auction of September 1, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Sothuparai ...	15,228	81
Kanniamallay ...	12,932	57
Kokayar ...	4,817	27

RUBBER.—Auction on September 10, 1931, was still smaller amounting to about 77 tons. There was very little change in prices except for inferior grades, which were easier. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold well at 10½ cents showing no change from the previous Auction, and fair quality Sheet also was steady at last prices. Off quality Sheet was slightly steadier while inferior quality showed no change. Contract Crepe of which only a small quantity was available was a good market at 10½ cents throughout—the same as at last sale. Off Crepe sold at steady rates. Mottled Brown sorts were about ¼ cent easier. There was only a moderate demand for good Brown Scrap Crepe but prices showed no alteration from those ruling in last sale. A weaker market ruled for all other grades of Scrap Crepe and dark and black sorts were ¼ cent easier. A very few lines of Scrap were available and demand for these showed no change.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

September 6, 1931 to September 19, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ...	1·42	3·03	4·45
2. Kalthurij.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	25. Kotagiri ...	4·35	0·86	5·21
3. Kallar Edge.	3·36	0·29	3·65	26. Ootacamund	2·95	1·03	3·98
4. Koney ...	3·37	0·75	4·12	27. Yercaud ...	7·27	6·19	13·46
5. Pattanapura.	...	...	...	28. Mango Range	3·73	4·23	8·01
6. Kumbazha ...	1·94	0·26	2·20	29. Devala ...	1·99	6·14	8·13
6a Peravanthan.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola.	2·62	1·78	4·40
6b Aneikolam...	2·54	1·28	3·82	31. CALICUT ...	4·11	0·48	4·59
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ...	2·61	3·77	6·38
8. Twyford ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	33. Vayitri ...	1·88	1·72	3·60
9. V'periyar ...	2·24	2·24	4·48	34. Manantoddi	1·61	1·15	2·76
10. Kalaar ...	3·49	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ...	2·70	6·17	8·87
11. Chittuvurrai	2·60	0·66	3·26	36. Sidapur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. BODI' KANUR	1·24	...	1·24	37. Ghatted Hullia	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	N.R.	0·80	N.R.	38. Pollibetta ...	5·27	4·45	9·72
14. Mooply ...	4·64	1·85	6·49	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	7·52	1·24	8·76	40. Saklaspur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	6·08	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamanie ...	1·82	5·34	7·16
17. POLLACHIE	0·42	...	0·42	42. Balebonnur...	6·26	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy...	0·52	0·29	0·81	43. Merthisubgey.	2·47	1·74	4·21
19. Karapara ...	1·57	N.R.	N.R.	44. Kelagur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
20. Pullengode..	3·11	...	3·11	45. Durgadabettta.	2·51	1·96	4·47
21. Nilambur ...	0·74	0·37	1·11	46. MANGALORE	0·47	1·65	2·12
22. Naduvattam	2·40	1·29	3·69	47. MADRAS ...	1·44	6·41	7·85
23. Nilgiri Peak.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.				

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 21]

October 10, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

RAPID progress has been made in the past few years to increase the consumption of Empire commodities in the United Kingdom and popularise such products, but there is still room for improvement in some of them.
Empire grown Tea Campaign

With regard to tea, much has been said and written about over-production and the merits and de-merits of restriction have been fully discussed, but it does appear that there is an urgent necessity to increase demand and stimulate consumption of this product. With this end in view, the Empire Marketing Board, which has done so much to benefit Empire produce by the various campaigns and propaganda which have been carried out by the Board, have decided upon an elaborate scheme whereby an intensive campaign to increase the consumption of Empire tea has been set on foot in the United Kingdom.

The co-operation has been secured, amongst others, of the Indian Tea Cess Committee, the Indian Tea Association (London), the South Indian Association in London, the Empire Marketing Board, the Trade Commissioner for India, etc.; also the majority of the important tea-distributing and blending firms in London and the provinces have expressed their willingness to participate.

Consumption of the better quality teas in the United Kingdom has recently shown a great falling off, due no doubt to the great increase in the influx of the foreign-grown product, and although the British people have been described as a nation of tea drinkers, they have hitherto shown discrimination in their choice of teas : it is a fallacy to presume that a cheap low quality tea is the most profitable, leaving out of account its health-giving and palatable qualities. The abolition of the tea duty two years ago by which a small fiscal preference was given to Empire tea had a most prejudicial effect and gave the *entrée* into Great Britain of heavily increased supplies from Java whose production had increased enormously.

The import figures of foreign-grown teas into the United Kingdom illustrate the rapid increase during the past ten years when it is realised the percentage of foreign-grown teas increased from 7·9 per cent in 1921 to 15·8 per cent in 1926 and 19·0 per cent in 1930. Owing to this condition of affairs, heavy losses have been, and are still being, incurred by tea plantation companies with the result it is feared that unless an increase takes place in the consumption of Empire-grown tea, large areas now under tea in the Empire will be forced out of cultivation.

If this came about, the resulting depression would have its effect not only on the employment of the European staffs and native labour on the gardens, but also on the revenue of the Governments of India, Ceylon and other colonies interested, besides causing further unemployment in England itself owing to the falling-off in the demand for machinery and stores used in the manufacture of tea.

It is beyond dispute that in the main, foreign teas are inferior to Empire-grown teas and Empire-grown teas can be blended to suit all tastes and all pockets, but hitherto it has generally been difficult for the customer to differentiate between the Empire and the foreign grown product when making his purchases.

Now however, through the co-operation of the leading distributors, packets are marked conspicuously 'Empire-grown teas', and the success of the present campaign will be assured if the public insist on purchasing teas guaranteed to be 'Empire-grown', as they do in the case of other Empire products.

THE combined Planters XV from the Anamallais and High Range who with the Lancashire Fusiliers are the joint holders of this Trophy, having drawn a bye in the first round, pass into the Final by virtue of their win over the Madras Gymkhana 'B' team Tournamant by 16 pts. to 3 in the semi-final on the 7th instant.
1931

Only five teams have entered the competition this year, due no doubt to the hard times in which we are living and everything points to the Planters meeting the Gymkhana 'A' in the final. The latter are a much improved side this season, and it was only through sheer bad luck that they did not feature in the final of the All-India tournament in Calcutta but in that tournament, they had the assistance of four Planters who will be playing against them, should they meet in the Final. A keen game is therefore assured and if the Planters XV can reproduce the form they displayed last season, it should be a very close thing but they can be depended upon to go all out and do one better than last year, if possible.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

WATCH STREET REGULATIONS?

Many experts are now at work upon the street congestion problem of this country. In the past few years, as everyone is well aware, there have been introduced numerous one-way schemes, police 'control' systems, regulations restricting streets to specified types of traffic, and so forth. Few of them appear to have been triumphantly successful, although it is but fair to admit that the task is a baffling one. However, it remains the fact that the block of vehicles in many of our leading thoroughfares tends to grow rather than to diminish. The special point of this note is to report that numerous projects aiming at part solution are in the air, a fair proportion of which will in all probability be experimented with. These need to be watched. Officialdom is not too deeply concerned with the needs and rights of business people, so long as it can fix up something to its own satisfaction. There was, for example, this recommendation recently by the Traffic Advisory Committee—that certain streets should be earmarked in which, on certain days of the week, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., vehicles are not to be allowed to stand 'for any longer period than may be necessary to enable any person to board or alight therefrom'. How is one to know such a street? The lamp-posts, it is proposed, should be specially painted. This is fairly typical of a body of regulations that are now causing irritation and difficulty. Shortly, one will have to be an encyclopædia of street bye-laws, with an exhaustive knowledge of the meaning of lamp-posts! It is doubtful whether business people generally would welcome such a scheme. What about goods delivery? Apparently a driver would be debarred from making a double journey from waiting van to shop with goods, but would have to drive off and return later for a second delivery. All such projects need to be carefully examined.—*The India-Rubber Journal.*

MORE FRUIT FROM SOUTH AMERICA

How Imports to the United Kingdom have increased

Following practical encouragement and assistance on the part of South American Governments, fruit exportation from South America to Europe—and, in particular, to the United Kingdom—has increased considerably, and interesting information on the subject is given in the Royal Bank of Canada's monthly letter for August. Although fruit has always been an important article of diet in South America, only within the past few years has it been placed on an export basis.

It is estimated that Brazil produces annually 5,000,000 boxes of oranges, of which 1,200,000 are exported each year. Increasing amounts are being shipped to Europe during the season May to November. Shipments of oranges and tangerines to the United Kingdom in 1930 amounted to 530,000 boxes, and it is anticipated that a total of 800,000 may be shipped this season. Some indication of the increase which may be expected can be gained from the fact that to June 30, 1931, the total shipment was 696,000 boxes. In addition, Brazil also sends small quantities of grape-fruit and pineapple.

Bananas, an important Brazilian food product, are also being shipped in large numbers, for in 1930 a total of 6,687,000 stems were exported, in comparison with 5,808,000 stems in 1929. The principal markets are Argentina and the United Kingdom, which in 1930, took 4,913,000 stems and 1,468,000 stems, respectively, representing 94 per cent. of the total.

Principal fruits grown in Chile are apples and peaches, but there are commercial plantations of prunes, cherries, quinces, pears and apricots. The Chilean Government has taken active interest in the development of the industry and pays a bounty on every box of fruit exported. The chief importers are Argentina, Europe and the United States.

Grapes and peaches are grown in the provinces of Mendoza and San Juan, on the eastern slopes of the Andes. During the past exporting season, from December to May, shipments to the United Kingdom were 150,000 boxes, compared with 100,000 boxes in 1930.

—The Produce Markets Review.

-: O :-

DIE BACK OF COFFEE

BY

W. WILSON MAYNE, B.Sc.

Coffee Scientific Officer, U.P.A.S.I.

The term Die Back is loosely applied to cover a great variety of causes of death of coffee shoots. Almost any dying twig is described as suffering from 'Die Back' though the primary cause of death may be any one or other of the diseases and pests attacking leaves, stems or roots, or merely the reaction to physiological over-strain or to unfavourable environmental conditions. The question therefore arises as to whether there exists any class of Die Back which can be regarded as an independent disease. Work was started in connection with this problem about two years ago, and while there is still much that is very obscure, some observations and experiments have thrown a little light on some aspects of the problem. The following account gives some of the work done and some tentative conclusions.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DISEASE.

Die Back is here considered as referring to the death of individual shoots, both crop-bearing and non-cropping, in which symptoms develop on the young wood and gradually extend to involve the whole shoot. Except in very young plants, this type of disease does not involve the death of whole branch systems or extend to the destruction of whole primaries. Cases of the death of large branch systems due to fungus activity have been met with only occasionally in the course of the investigation. They appear to be due to Pink Disease but have not been studied very closely.

Die Back within the scope of the definition, has not been found to affect shoots with a number of pairs of leaves *on consecutive joints from the apex*. The few scattered references to Coffee Die Back seem to indicate that this is not always so and that cases have been reported on leafy shoots. The descriptions are not clear as to whether leaf-fall preceded the appearance of symptoms in the twig or not.

In all cases examined, symptoms showed only on totally defoliated shoots, shoots with one, or rarely two pairs of immature leaves, or on leafy shoots which had lost the apical pair or couple of pairs of leaves.

The first indications of the disease is the yellowing of the young green wood. If immature leaves are present, these droop and assume a sickly green colour, finally turning black and falling. The yellowing of the green shoot is soon followed by the appearance of brown sunken areas, usually

extending from a leaf scar and invading the tissues of the internodes above and below it. These areas blacken and extend until the whole shoot is involved, leaving nothing but a dead black stick. Corky wood is also invaded but this shows little external sign of attack.

The blackened areas bear minute pustules, breaking through the epidermis of the shoot. These pustules vary in colour, sometimes being pale pink and at other times black. The difference is due to the masses of spores, which are pink in bulk, whereas the underlying fungus tissue is dark. Sections show that a pustule consists of a mass of fungus hyphæ bearing on its surface numerous single celled cylindrical spores. Inter-spersed with these spores which are borne singly at the tips of hyphæ, are sometimes to be found long black spine like hyphæ. The fungus has been grown in pure culture giving rise to two types of spores, one similar to those found in the pustules and a second produced in black spherical bodies—the perithecia. The latter is the perfect stage of the fungus which falls in the genus *Glomerella*.

Such symptoms as these are to be found on almost any tree which has, for one reason or another, shed leaves during periods favourable to fungus development. Thus, shoots on trees dying from borer or stump rot are affected. It is obvious in these cases that the appearance of such symptoms cannot be considered as due to an independent disease. The case is different where Die Back appears on trees which are not dying and which after the attack make new growth and throw out fresh leaf. It is these cases which deserve closer investigation.

CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH DISEASE APPEARS.

Attacks of Die Back occur at three main periods which may be defined as Monsoon, Post-crop, and Hot Weather.

1. *Monsoon Die Back*. This makes its appearance toward the end of the monsoon and is closely correlated with attacks of Leaf Disease. It involves the destruction of great numbers of young non-cropping shoots and of crop-bearing branches, reducing both the current crop and the potential cropping area of the following year.

2. *Post-crop Die Back*. This attack is not clearly defined. It affects only the old wood which has just been relieved of its crop.

3. *Hot Weather Die Back*. This attack involves the bud-bearing wood. The disease becomes evident about the time of the first showers. It is occasionally very severe but is not as regular or as widespread as the monsoon attack.

Most of the work done on Die Back has been concerned with the monsoon disease. Little attention has been paid to the death of old wood after crop and the amount of hot weather disease found has not been sufficient for more than the study of the fungus found on the diseased twigs. There is no question of the identity of the fungus found in the case of the monsoon and hot weather attacks. Although almost all the remarks made below refer to the former, it is highly probable that, with necessary adjustments, they will apply also to the latter.

These three periods correspond with periods of strain or exhaustion during the life of the plant. In the latter part of the monsoon, the crop is reaching its full size and making big demands on the tree, while Leaf Disease is destroying leaves and extracting nourishment from the host. In the months after crop, the plant is exhausted and feeling the effects of dry weather. Finally in the early hot weather, the plant is called upon to produce a blossom—an exhausting process—and at the same time to make

new growth for the following year's crop. These facts together with the fact that Die Back only appears on shoots which have lost leaf, suggest that physiological causes may account very largely for Die Back.

This view is taken by the workers in Kenya and Uganda, who differentiate 'Physiological Die Back' from 'Anthracnose' or parasitic Die Back, relegating the latter to a very minor place. The descriptions of Physiological Die Back do not agree with the phenomena observed in S. India. Thus, McDonald (*Fungoid Diseases of Coffee in Kenya Colony*, 1928) states 'Whereas in Die Back proper (i.e. Physiological Die Back) the trouble affects whole groups of branches and the branches usually die back from the tips, in Anthracnose only a branch here and there is affected and the point of infection is more often distant from the tip.' As has already been pointed out it is rare in S. India to find whole branch systems killed off, all forms of Die Back being localized to individual shoots. Of course in severe cases whole branch systems may die, but the killing is not progressive and each shoot seems to die independently of the others. Here and there a shoot may be left unattacked. Further there is no localization of the disease to certain parts of the tree as is described for the East African type of Physiological Die Back. Therefore, while physiological causes may be the main factors in the development of Die Back as it is known in S. India, it does not appear that the problem follows the same lines as in East Africa.

OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIMENTS.

As has already been pointed out there is a close relationship between attacks of Leaf Disease and the appearance of Die Back during the monsoon. Observations were made to see how close this relation was. Is Die Back the inevitable consequence of defoliation?

In one series of observations 100 leafless shoots of three to eight joints were labelled and periodical observations were made to see how many succumbed to disease. It was found that 52 of the shoots recovered completely, making new leaf during September and October while the remainder developed Die Back of the usual type during the same period. This series was supplemented by another which gave the same general result though the percentage of recoveries after the defoliation was less. It appears therefore that defoliation alone cannot cause Die Back.

The effect of defoliation is to reduce the supply of starch manufactured by the leaves. An examination of a number of defoliated shoots was made to see what amounts of starch were present in the tissues. It was found that there was a marked deficiency of starch in such branches when compared with leafy branches, but no differences were noticeable between different defoliated shoots such as might explain the differences in behaviour to Die Back. The examination was not sufficiently precise to show such differences with certainty, but means for more accurate determinations were not then available.

In view of the East African experience with respect to the death of whole branch systems, an analysis was made of the development of Die Back on a number of branch systems which were under observations. It was found that the death of shoots was quite haphazard. Sometimes, of two shoots originating at the same node and both defoliated at the same time, one would put out new leaf and the other would die.

The examination of a great many branches showing Die Back in all stages has been made, without revealing any cases in which the disease associated with the fungus already described has developed, on a leafy

branch with leaves on consecutive joints from the apex. Some cases of a Die Back have just recently been obtained where leaves are present but there were no signs of the fungus. A fungus was present however but of a totally different type. This disease does not seem to be of very considerable importance.

It was found that generally Die Back was more severe under light shade and poor soil conditions. A number of areas have been examined and estimates of the intensity of the disease made. The results bear out the conclusions from general inspections of estates. It has been found that while Leaf Disease may be no less severe on coffee growing under favourable shade and soil conditions, leaf-fall takes place with a lower intensity of disease where conditions are less favourable. Defoliation therefore sets in earlier and Die Back is more severe. Lightly shaded coffee is also liable to bear more crop which throws additional strain on the trees.

A number of attempts have been made to reproduce the disease by inoculations with spores of the fungus produced in pure culture. The results have not been very satisfactory but one or two cases of success have been obtained. These have been sufficient to suggest that the fungus does play some part in the development of the disease but that it is probably of very small importance in comparison with the weakness produced by defoliation. All the successes were on plants which had been artificially weakened by defoliation or by keeping them in darkness for extended periods. So far, no method has been found by which the disease can be reproduced with certainty.

In the case of Hot Weather Die Back it has been noted that branches, well supplied with flower-bud but completely defoliated, may pass through the early months of the year in apparent health. Death occurs with the blossom showers or about that time. It might be suggested that the death was due to fungus activity set in motion by moisture, but at the same time the showers also start physiological processes which might be equally the prime cause of death.

From the preceding account the direction in which control measures must go, is self-evident. The prevention of defoliation will very largely obviate attacks of Die Back. In the first rank of control measures, stands spraying before the monsoon. At the Experiment Station an area which, in September 1929, was so badly attacked by Die Back that it was used for observational purposes on the disease, was sprayed in May 1930 and although the monsoon of that year was eminently favourable for Leaf Disease, there was practically no Die Back in the area in September. As far as it has been possible to tell, the post monsoon spray acts in a very similar manner with respect to the hot weather attack.

In addition to spraying, attention to all cultural practices which promote the health of the trees will be of value in checking Die Back. In some districts at any rate, no attention to cultural practices can take the place of spraying in controlling Leaf Disease and the Die Back which follows.

In view of the possibility that the fungus plays some part in the disease it is advisable to remove and burn attacked twigs. As far as possible, all dead wood should be eliminated before the blossom showers.

It is realized that there are still a number of unsolved problems in connection with this disease, but it is felt that as far as practical measures are concerned, attention to the ravages of Leaf Disease will reduce the losses by Die Back to a relatively minor place.

NETRACONDA,
September 16th, 1931,

W. WILSON MAYNE,

MOTOR VEHICLE TAXATION IN MADRAS

Immediately after the Annual Meeting at Bangalore, the question of the taxation of motor vehicles was taken up by the Planting Member, and a representative Committee was appointed in Madras to collect information. This Committee has been hard at work and has come to certain conclusions:—

(a) There is a clear case for exemption from tax under section 11 (1) of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act in the case of motor vehicles not using public roads. Representations have already been made to the Local Government on this point. There is also a case for reduction in taxation on the part of motor vehicles using public roads very infrequently and at stated intervals. It is not easy to see how this can be practically effected however, and how abuses could be prevented. Suggestions are welcomed.

(b) Private and commercial lorries are over-taxed and many are being taken off the road in favour of bullock carts. A resolution is to be moved at the next Session of the Legislative Council, calling for the appointment of a Committee to go into this and cognate questions and to report by February 1932.

(c) Private and commercial lorries are now subject to District Board license fees (some of which are as much as Rs. 500/- for a 1½-ton lorry) as well as to the provincial tax. A Bill is to be introduced by the Planting Member in the next Council Session exempting from payment of Local Board license fees all lorries except lorries *for hire*. A copy of the Bill with a Statement of Objects and Reasons follows. (Bill A.)

(d) Buses are hopelessly over-taxed in some districts by District Board license fees, which amount in two districts to over Rs. 3,000/- per annum! This is obviously wrong. A license fee is a fee charged for the issue of a license and not a tax. They should therefore be reduced to a moderate amount and should be fairly uniform in all districts. A Bill has been prepared and will be introduced in the next Session of the Council, limiting the maximum for a license which a Local Board or Municipality can levy to Rs. 100/- per annum. A copy of this Bill follows. (Bill B.)

(e) Other points regarding the collection of the tax, the registration of cars, exemptions, etc., etc., have been considered by the Committee, and suggestions have been sent in to Government.

(f) It is hoped that District Planting Associations will support these steps that are being taken to place the provincial and local taxation of motor vehicles on a more rational basis.

F. E. JAMES, M.L.C.

BILL A

Whereas it is expedient to amend the District Municipalities Act 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act 1920, it is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act shall be called the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Amendment Act 1931.
2. In Section 174 A of the Madras District Municipalities Act 1920, in sub-section (1) (b) after the words 'any motor lorry' the words 'for hire' shall be inserted.
3. In Section 166 of the Madras Local Boards Act 1920, in sub-section (1) (b) after the words 'any motor lorry' the words 'for hire' shall be inserted.
4. In Schedule VII of the District Municipalities Act 1920, in the item relating to Section 174-A sub-section (1), and in Schedule VIII of the Madras Local Boards Act 1920, in the item relating to Section 166 sub-section (1), after the words 'motor lorry' the words 'for hire' shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Considerable hardship is being caused by the fact that motor lorries not used for hire are at present subject to the levy of license fees by Local Boards and District Municipalities in addition to the provincial tax imposed under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act 1931.

Lorries used by private owners mainly for agricultural purposes and commercial lorries which are a necessity for the efficient operation of trade and industry are being rapidly withdrawn from circulation in favour of bullock carts owing to this double taxation.

The object of this Bill therefore is to exempt motor lorries not used for hire from the provisions of Section 174-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act and Section 166 of the Local Boards Act 1920.

BILL B

Whereas it is expedient to amend the District Municipalities Act 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act 1920, it is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. This Act shall be called the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Amendment Act 1931.

2. This Act shall come into force on the 1st of April 1932.

3. In Section 174-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act 1920, in sub-section (2), the following words shall be added at the end : ' provided that the total fee leviable on a motor vehicle or motor lorry for one or more licenses issued under this section shall not exceed Rs. 100 per annum.'

4. In section 166 of the Madras Local Boards Act 1920,—

(a) in sub-section (2) the second sentence shall be omitted.

(b) in sub-section (3) the following words shall be added at the end : ' provided that the total fee leviable on a motor vehicle or lorry for one or more licenses issued under this section, shall not exceed Rs. 100 per annum ; and provided that where a District Board has issued a license and levied a fee therefore under this section in respect of any motor vehicle or lorry, no other District Board shall have power to levy a fee for any license issued by it in respect of the same motor vehicle or lorry for the same period.'

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The object of this Bill is to abolish the power of local bodies to levy taxes under the guise of license fees, on motor vehicles and lorries, and to place a maximum on the amount of fee levied for a license. It is clear that in the District Municipalities Act 1920, and the Local Boards Act 1920, it was not the intention of the Legislature that the power to issue licenses in regard to motor vehicles should be used for purposes of taxation. It has been laid down by the Madras High Court in connection with the Madras City Corporation, that license fees must be regarded as compensation for the expenses incurred in the issue of licenses and the general regulation of the objects licensed, and not as means of raising revenue, and that there must be some relation between these expenses and the amount of fees leviable (*Corporation of Madras v. Spencer & Co.*). A similar view has been expressed by the Rangoon High Court, and endorsed by the Privy Council in the case of the *Municipal Corporation of Rangoon v. Pazundaung Bazaar Co.* License fees cannot be regarded as taxes. Within recent months, however, some local bodies throughout the Presidency have greatly increased the license fees for motor buses and motor lorries until at the present time fees varying from Rs. 100 to Rs. 2,000 per annum on each vehicle are being levied.

In the preamble to the Madras Motor Vehicles Act 1931, it is stated 'and whereas it is expedient to abolish the levy of taxes on motor vehicles by local bodies within the said Presidency, and whereas it is also expedient to provide for the levy of a provincial tax on motor vehicles in the said Presidency.' Yet the license fees charged by many local bodies are equal to, and in a few cases greater than the provincial tax fixed by the Government! This is obviously an injustice and it has resulted in the fact that over 40 per cent of the buses and lorries have been taken off the road, or are about to be taken off. Motor transport, instead of being encouraged, is being taxed out of existence.

This Bill endeavours to remedy this injustice by placing a limit to the amount of license fee which a local body can levy on motor buses and lorries. It will be the duty of the Legislative Council to decide if the figure suggested in the Bill is a reasonable one having regard to all the circumstances.

THE EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD AND ITS WORK

When the Empire Marketing Board was set up by the Government in 1926 to increase the sales of Empire produce in the United Kingdom, it was with the object of compensating the overseas Empire countries for preferences on certain foodstuffs, which had been virtually promised at the Imperial Conference of 1923, but to which it was later found impracticable to give effect. That the Board is fulfilling this aim is amply borne out by the chorus of protests called forth by its threatened inclusion amongst the various cuts suggested in the Economy Report from just those quarters whose testimony as to the value of the Board's work should carry most weight. And these spontaneous tributes from overseas producers speak not only of the benefit which the Board's activities are conferring on the trade of individual Empire countries, but of the increasing sentiment in favour of Empire trading generally which is growing up as a result of it, and of the tendency to a reciprocal movement in favour of British goods overseas. Trade bodies in this country, too, have been quick to re-affirm their sense of the value of the Board's contribution to the development of Empire trade.

HOMER PRODUCE FIRST

But it has not only been towards increasing the sales of Empire produce from overseas that the Board has directed its efforts of the last five years. Both in its publicity and marketing activities and in the allocation of its research grants, home agricultural produce has been its first care.

MANY NEW RECORDS IN EMPIRE BUYING

World-wide economic depression, grave though its consequences have been in many respects and in all parts of the world, has not arrested the growing habit in the United Kingdom of buying from the Empire at home and overseas. The last three annual reports of the Empire Marketing Board have shown long and growing lists of Empire commodities which are being imported into this country in greater quantities than ever before.

The report for the year 1928-29, issued at the end of the Board's second year's work, showed that within the previous two years certain imports from Empire sources had broken all previous records.

Again, the Board's annual report for 1929-30 showed that, for the year then under review, twenty-five new records had been set up as regards volume of imports into the United Kingdom. Nearly half these did even better in the year 1930-31, while a further substantial list of Empire foodstuffs exceeded in 1930 all earlier figures. Imports of Canadian apples established in 1930 a new highest figure of 2,092,000 cwts., as against the previous record of 1,860,000 cwts. in 1923. Bananas from the British West Indies beat the preceding year's record by 1,911,000 bunches. Imports of lamb from New Zealand rose from 5,879,066 carcasses in 1929 to 6,923,167 carcasses in 1930, and oranges from South Africa from 670,000 cwts. in 1929, to 1,100,000 cwts. in 1930. Apples from New Zealand, butter and cheese from New Zealand, coffee from British East Africa, currants from Australia, eggs from Australia and South Africa, grapefruit from South Africa and Palestine, pears from Australia, South Africa, Canada and New Zealand, peaches, plums, sugar and wines from South Africa and tobacco from India are other Empire commodities which established records in 1930.

A number of other foodstuffs are also mentioned in the report, for which, while the 1929 record was not reached in 1930, the last year's imports surpassed all previous years, except 1929. These include Australian raisins and sultanas, New Zealand frozen pork, Ceylon tea, Australian sugar and British Malayan canned pineapples.

CHANGES IN PUBLIC TASTE

The people of the United Kingdom are proving themselves steadily more willing to buy from within the Empire. Many factors have combined to bring about this encouraging result. First, more scientific attention is being paid to-day than ever before by Empire producers both at home and overseas to the need of supporting the natural high quality of their goods by grading and orderly marketing in all its branches. Secondly, distributive traders of all kinds in the United Kingdom have shown themselves wholeheartedly resolved to further the progress of Empire buying along sound economic lines. Thirdly, the contact between producers overseas and wholesale and retail traders in the United Kingdom grows steadily closer. Fourthly, consumers in the United Kingdom, men and women, are becoming more aware of the excellent and wide range of Empire products and of the importance of Empire buying.

THE BOARD'S METHODS

Each of the methods hitherto employed by the Board for the furtherance of Empire marketing has again proved valuable in 1930-31. The policy of making grants for scientific research work in the United Kingdom and in the overseas Empire has been continued. Economic investigation and market enquiries have been carried out on a more intensive scale, and publicity, in all its branches, has been used to popularise the wisdom of Empire buying.

THE COLLECTIVE CONSUMER

The importance of securing the practical interest of the large buyers of foodstuffs, such as local authorities, institutions, hotels, shipping companies, and other bodies which undertake catering on a large scale, has been recognized from the outset, and tentative steps to develop this field of activity have been taken on more than one occasion. During the past year the Board

felt justified, as a result of the experience they had gained since their formation, in beginning serious effort in this field. The Board's officers have visited all the local authorities and mental hospitals in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and are at present working through Scotland. They have not met with a single refusal of co-operation. Tender forms covering 1,250 institutions in England and Wales alone have been sent to the Board for scrutiny and suggestions. All the local authorities have proved ready and anxious to do everything they can to purchase their supplies from the Empire at home and overseas.

This new stimulus to Empire buying through the 'Collective Consumer' is already being felt by the trades. One large meat importer, for instance, stated that there has been a definite increase in the consumption of Australian frozen beef, and he attributed this to the demand coming from local authorities.

In many cases supplies of fresh produce are now being purchased locally. The excellence and availability of home produce is emphasised on every occasion by the Board's officers.

A REGIONAL 'SALES DRIVE'

Another extension of what may be regarded as the Board's more directly commercial activities in the field of Empire marketing is instanced in a special campaign which was undertaken, at the beginning of 1931, in Lancashire with a view to increasing the sales of home and overseas Empire butter in that area. Here long established prejudice in favour of casked butters of pale colour was held to be too deeply entrenched to permit an effective distribution being made of Empire butters, particularly those from Australia and New Zealand. The Board decided that, as large supplies were available of butter of first-rate quality from these Dominions, an effort should be made to overcome this sales resistance by a definite appeal to the distributive trades. The Board therefore called into consultation the London managers of the Australian and New Zealand Dairy Produce Boards and invited their co-operation in a concerted effort.

An office was accordingly opened by the Board in Manchester early in January. Calls were made, in the first instance, upon the importers and wholesalers in Liverpool and Manchester and their co-operation in the scheme secured. Canvassers appointed by the Board then called upon all retailers known to be stocking butter in Manchester, Stockport, Wigan, Warrington, Chorley, Bolton, Oldham, Bury, Rochdale, and Blackburn. Of the 6,620 retailers visited, 2,940 were found to be already stocking Empire butters. Of the remaining 3,680 who were not stocking Empire butters, 1,561 promised to do so.

Second visits have now been paid to these towns in order to find out to what extent the promises to stock Empire butters in future had been fulfilled. The results of this second visit have shown that the number of retailers stocking Empire butter has increased since the time of the first visit from 57 per cent., 42 per cent., 48 per cent., 40 per cent., 47 per cent., 34 per cent., 39 per cent., 33 per cent., 40 per cent. and 37 per cent. to 84 per cent., 72 per cent., 81 per cent., 79 per cent., 72 per cent., 72 per cent., 65 per cent., 60 per cent., 66 per cent., and 72 per cent. respectively. 1,963 retailers in this area who, hitherto, stocked only Danish and other foreign butters are now stocking Empire butters.

In this connection it is interesting to note that as shown in the Board's Weekly Dairy Produce Notes, this year, for the first time in history, the Empire butter industry is outstripping its foreign rivals. For the seven months ended July 31 imports of Empire butter amounted to 2,473,659 cwts., as against 2,320,882 cwts. of foreign butter.

PUBLICITY

In its advertising the Board has again made use of eight principal methods. These have consisted of advertisements in the national Press, and in trade and local papers, the display of coloured posters on 1,750 frames distributed over 450 towns in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and the issue of poster reproductions and explanatory leaflets to 22,000 schools, the distribution of display material to retailers, lectures, wireless talks to housewives, participation in exhibitions and shopping weeks, addresses to businessmen traders, and the distribution of films through theatrical and other channels.

THREE EMPIRE SHOPS

An outstanding activity in the field of advertising during the past eighteen months has been the organisation of three Empire shops. The experiment tried at Glasgow last year of popularising and extending the sale of Empire produce by the opening of a shop, in which samples were sold to the public under conditions which secured the goodwill and co-operation of the trades, was so successful that a similar shop was opened in Birmingham in January of this year, while a third shop was opened in Blackpool in July for the duration of the holiday season. These shop experiments have the merit of affording an opportunity to Empire countries in turn of making a special display of their produce in surroundings which are designed to stimulate public interest and under conditions which, thanks to the keen interest taken by the distributive trade, are likely to be productive of permanent results. The temporary establishment of an Empire shop in a particular district also provides a centre at which the publicity and marketing activities both of the Board and of the Governments concerned can be strikingly concentrated. Results both at Glasgow and Birmingham have proved highly encouraging, and Blackpool is also yielding a good return. The exhibiting Empire countries have sold large and increasing numbers of samples of the various products displayed in the shops to large crowds of visitors, and subsequent enquiry amongst retailers in Glasgow and Birmingham have revealed that the demand for Empire goods is showing a noticeable increase. Empire products that were already in demand are more firmly established than before, and many new lines of commodities are gradually making their way on to the markets.

In the field of scientific research, too, regarded by the Board as possibly the most important of the three main spheres of its activities, good progress is being made in the many schemes supported by grants from the Empire Marketing Fund. Here, as on the side of Marketing and Publicity, the Board's programme is planned to take effect over a considerable period, and each successive stage as it is reached yields results that promise high hopes of returns that will grow in volume accordingly as the Board is enabled to develop its work.—*The British Empire Review, September 1931.*

CONSUMPTION OF TEA IN INDIA

Note by Acting Commissioner, Indian Tea Cess Committee

Where tea propaganda work is concerned, there has been no barometer to directly show the number of non-tea-drinkers who have been converted. Neither can a figure of actual annual consumption be ascertained, for at no time can stocks in the hands of middlemen all over India be even approximately gauged.

The quantity of tea which is produced and imported in any one season, less the amount exported abroad during that season, gives the amount of that season's tea which is left in India, and becomes available—together with existing stocks—for consumption in the country.

In the decade 1921–31, the production of tea in India was estimated by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics to be in the neighbourhood of 3,721 millions of pounds; this figure of course excludes foreign tea imported into the country, and Shan States tea, which together amounted to 17½ million pounds. In this period the production of Indian tea has increased by 9½ per cent as compared with the previous decade, while the supply of tea left in the country for consumption has gone up by 38½ per cent (a very conservative estimate), and it is reasonable to suppose that the consumption of tea in India has advanced in a similar proportion.

The following are the estimates of tea left in India and available for consumption during the years 1921–22 to 1930–31:—

	Lbs.
1921/22	29,908,792
1922/23	38,430,469
1923/24	47,203,858
1924/25	48,259,592
1925/26	50,194,456
1926/27	52,952,464
1927/28	47,729,188
1928/29	56,592,359
1929/30	65,370,413
1930/31	49,686,135

It will be noticed that in the year 1929–30, the amount left in India was 65,370,413 lbs. while in the following year owing to restricted output, the amount was only 49½ million lbs. The estimated consumption however continues at anything from 50 to 60 million lbs. per annum. In the year 1929–30, tea was cheap in price and dealers purchased more than their immediate requirements, and a considerable amount went into stocks. In the year 1930–31, owing to the uncertainty of outlook, merchants were rather more inclined to lighten their stocks than to buy fresh supplies, and in this way stocks rapidly went into consumption. It is estimated that 49½ million lbs. together with 10 or 15 million lbs. of stocks previously held went into consumption during that year. The movements of tea by rail and sea would support this theory, for in the current year the increased quantities of tea moved by rail and sea are doubtless to replenish the stocks which were reduced last year as explained above.

RUBBER IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A greater than seasonal movement of tyres into the hands of consumers, attended by a quickening of manufacturing activities, has given the rubber situation in the United States a fillip it has long lacked. There no longer is any question but that not only are shipments of tyres running ahead of those at the corresponding time last year but that operations at the great rubber factories of Akron, Ohio, are well ahead of the rate of a year ago.

Shipments of pneumatic casings have been steadily gaining month by month since last November, but it was not until May that they crossed the totals for the corresponding month of the previous year and showed more than seasonal growth. In that month the movement was not only 9·8 per cent greater than in April but was 3·8 per cent larger than during May, 1930. The gain of 9·8 per cent over April was abnormal, for the seasonal increase in May, normally, is only 3 per cent. Shipments in May as a matter of fact were the largest of any month since July, 1930.

Tyre production for the first five months of the year was about 10 per cent lower than for the corresponding period of 1930, but for May was about even with May, 1930. Recent advices from the manufacturing centre indicate that an astonishing degree of activity prevails. It is estimated that during June small tyre makers were operating close to 100 per cent of capacity, while the Big Four of the tyre industry were running about 80 per cent of capacity.

These advices, coupled with the production statistics and unseasonably large shipments, fit in with figures of consumption showing a more than seasonal consumption of crude rubber. Normally consumption comes to a seasonal peak in May and then tapers off. This year, however, the seasonal decline has been delayed, as evidenced by the fact that consumption of crude rubber during June actually exceeded that for May, whereas normally it should have dropped about 5 per cent in a seasonal decline. Moreover, consumption of crude during June was nearly 11 per cent greater than it was June, 1930, and reached the highest monthly rate since April, 1930.

These statistics all point to the conclusion that the replacement demand which rubber manufacturers predicted would be exceptionally large this year is now in full swing. While tyre production during the first five months of the year was 10 per cent less than it was in the first five months of 1930, stocks of casings on hand at the end of May were more than 23 per cent smaller than a year ago, while production of motor cars for the period was about 30 per cent less than for the five months of 1930.

An official of the Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company recently attributed the gain in the rubber industry to replacement buying. He estimated that buying to replace worn-out tyres during the last three months of the year had exceeded that of a year ago by about 15 per cent. Two other manufacturers recently stated publicly that their sales for the first half of 1931 were materially greater than they had been during the first half of 1930. W. H. Lally, head of the Kelly-Springfield Tyre Company, reported sales for June 25 per cent greater than those for May, an abnormally large gain.

In accord with that statement was one by W. O. O'Neill, president of the General Tyre and Rubber Company, that his company had sold 18 per cent more tyres in the first half of this year than it had marketed in the first half of last year. Moreover, that company's business measured in dollars and cents was better in the second quarter of the year than in the first quarter.

Mr. O'Neill estimated that this company had more than made up in the second quarter the inventory loss it had been forced to write off during the first three months of the year. That is a significant statement, for it has been well understood that all manufacturers had more or less large inventory losses to write off as a result of the decline in the crude rubber market and also as an outcome of a downward revision made in prices of tyres last January. With those losses back of them and either wholly or in part covered by better earnings in the second quarter of the year the rubber manufacturing companies now are looking ahead with lighter hearts than they have had for many months.

Prices appear to have been stabilized in the tyre market. It is predicted here that if the rubber market does not improve, production will be curtailed of necessity without artificial measures, for the trade here is convinced that there is no profit in production of crude rubber for what it brings now. As a result, the more or less confusing and cryptic advices received from time to time regarding restriction conferences no longer awaken any interest. Economics are expected to work the cure of the market.

Statistically the position of crude rubber continues unfavourable in this country, with estimated stocks of the commodity in hand, in transit and afloat at new high record figures. Nevertheless, the rubber trade is rather cheerful, although taking but small risks on the buying side of the market.

—*The Rubber and Tea Quarterly.*

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REVIEWS

MALARIA CONTROL BY ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES

GORDON COVELL

(*Thacker Spink & Co., Ltd., Calcutta*)

The Author of this Book has condensed into 93 readable pages a very interesting and up-to-date account of the various Anti-Malarial measures now in use.

The Planter, whose life burdened by the continual worries of this infection in his labour force, will find in its short and very readable compass, much valuable information to aid and assist him in his constant and yearly efforts to allay the infection. The book is not full of technicalities, and the information, arguments and analysis as they are written in a pleasing style will, I feel sure, make this volume an exceedingly popular one.

The book is divided into three parts:—

Part 1—Protection against Bites of Mosquitoes.

Part 2—Measures directed against Adult Mosquitoes.

Part 3—Measures directed against Larvae of Mosquitoes.

There is also a Bibliography of 570 references to literature arranged under the headings of the different subjects, and an Appendix containing a list of sources and prices of Anti-Malarial apparatus.

The general assumption from our past Anti-Malarial efforts on estates makes part 3, the chapter of importance to us. How many of us will be confused with the word of warning on the clearing of jungle or shrub on page 35-36. Certain dangerous malarial carrying species of *Anopheles* prefer breeding places exposed to bright sunshine. The indiscriminate clearing of jungle and shrub in places where such species exist may therefore be followed by disastrous results

The chief points in drainage are dealt with in seven pages and the explanatory illustrations here are helpful. Oiling is thoroughly explained from every aspect, and careful perusal of the interesting and full explanatory data of—‘How oil kills’—‘the Spreading power of oil’—‘the Choice of oils’—‘Method of applying oil’—‘Amount of oil to be applied’—‘Frequency of oiling’—‘Where oiling is applicable’—‘Disadvantages of oiling’—‘Advantages of oiling’,—will be of immense assistance to us. A list of proprietary oil Larvicides are also discussed. ‘Paris Green’ the micro-crystalline powder larvicide receives full explanation of application. Several other chemical and proprietary solutions are also discussed, also vegetable larvices and larvical fish. The Author’s method of dealing with swamps and marshes and other water areas will interest Planters.

The volume is printed on an excellent paper and the type and illustrations (which I thought there were too few of), are good. I thoroughly recommend every Planter confronted with the problem to have a careful read over this handy little volume. Most certainly it should be a stock book in every estate dispensary where malaria exists.

CASE AGAINST RESTRICTION

PROBLEM OF CONTROLLING PRODUCTION

The restriction scheme, writes Anti-Restrictionist in the *Madras Mail*, put forward by Sir Frances Voules at the Kuala Mudi meeting will be found unworkable in the Dutch East Indies.

Every scheme to date has broken down through the Dutch being unable to control the vast areas of native rubber in Sumatra and Borneo. There are no records of land planted in these countries, hence the impossibility of devising a plan equitable both to estate and small holder. Even in Malaya where land is registered, it will be a difficult matter to control a man receiving the ‘dole’ from tapping and selling his produce to another—unless a large preventive force of inspectors is created.

To apply the scheme to companies means penalizing the efficient producers in the matter of bark, for the benefit of the inefficient. I cannot see companies now producing at 10 or 12 cents per lb. of rubber handing over 3 cents ($\frac{1}{2}$ d.) to their future rivals. These estates with rested trees, and probably in a fair condition through the ‘dole,’ would at once take advantage of any rise and flood the market.

While on the subject of costs achieved by first class estates, it is interesting to note the low cost rubber is now being put on the market in Ceylon and Malaya. One estate in Ceylon produced last year at a little over 12 cents (2d.) per lb. Another of 500 acres estimates a production cost of 9·36 cents. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ d.) per lb. Malaya is handicapped by the higher wage paid to staff and labour, yet the following taken from the *Ceylon Times*, shows what has been achieved in that country.

REDUCTION IN COSTS

A remarkable case of reduction in rubber planting costs is provided by the record of a small Malayan company, Bukit Nilai, which last year produced a crop of 269,300 lb., says the *Malay Mail* of August 25. In spite of the fall in rubber, the accounts for the 12 months ended March 31 disclosed a net profit of £1,275, ‘all-in’ costs having been reduced from 7·65d. to 5·7d.

At the general meeting Mr. Clarence E. Harvard, the chairman, was able to announce a further reduction, for he stated that the latest Eastern all-in costs worked out at 2·52d., and that this had been covered for the next three months by a forward sale at 3·1d. Moreover, the property was being kept in fair order and no vital work was being neglected. The secretaries, agents, manager, and the board were all on reduced salaries.

AGAINST RESTRICTION

'On the question of restriction, Mr. Harvard drew attention to an important point—namely, that the European side was now on level terms with the native element, and urged that nothing should be done to upset this position. Government restriction, he truly said, would always favour the small-holder, who would gain at the expense of the large estates, for the costs of the latter must rise considerably with any restriction of output.'

Is it worthwhile tampering with estates which even now can make both ends meet, to save a vast area of native estate rubber from eventual ruin?

A scheme propounded lately in Ceylon is the only plan likely to meet with success at this juncture. That is destruction of $\frac{1}{2}$ or larger percentage of crop at the port of shipment. This is a simple plan and requires no expensive staff. The good yielding, and bad yielding estate, the company and native small holder will lose crop proportionately. The strength of the Ceylon scheme lies not only in the fact that stocks will be reduced, but also prevents the inefficient and weak coming into tapping.

It is obvious that places which cannot produce cheaply now, are likely to worry the market when 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 per cent of their crop is destroyed. The estates in tapping will be compensated to a certain degree by the rise in price for the sacrifice they are making while stocks (the real incubus) will be liquidated. Whatever scheme is put up will have to reckon with a potential production from the small holder of Malaya and D. E. I. of 60,000 tons, when prices are attractive—80 to 90 per cent of the present world consumption.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

*Destructive Insects and Pests Act
(Development Department)*

G. O. No. MS. 1389, dated 21st September 1931

The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by item (v) of the fourth schedule appended to the order published with the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Education, Health and Lands No. 580-240 dated 26th June 1922 as subsequently amended, the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to appoint the Deputy Director, Land Records and Agriculture, Coorg, Mercara, as the authority to issue certificates of origin in respect of consignments of unroasted or unground coffee beans or seeds produced in the Province of Coorg.

(By order of the Government Ministry of Public Works)

(Sd.) S. V. RAMAMURTI,

Secretary to Government.

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING AUGUST, 1931

	From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>										
Madras	...	...	347	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	32	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	Previously...		379	6	1	5	...	231	2,457	5,154
Total cwt.	since 1-1-31.	351,638	6,195	185,420	48,873	93,377	9,926	231	2,457	5,154
<i>Rubber—</i>										
Calicut	...	...	18,488	26,572	45,751	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	200	96,038;	33,364	45,821	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	Previously...		18,688	155,974	497,572	69,505	...	159	269,160	...
Total lbs.	since 1-1-31.	8,457,687	281,100	2,771,382	5,066,381	69,505	...	159	269,160	...
<i>Tea—</i>										
Madras	...	...	1,816	10,230	118	490	96	...	...	...
Calicut	...	...	...	51,964	2,403,447	...	1,500	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	31,642	65,227	850,353	...	...	...	21,452	...
Tuticorin	...	...	...	1,950	5,862	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	Previously...		33,483	129,371	3,516,534	600	1,596	...	21,452	4,125
Total lbs.	since 1-4-31.	21,632,655	298,901	941,783	16,611,803	7,744	2,341	508	62,414	4,125
Total lbs.	since 1-4-31.	332,384	1,071,154	20,128,337	8,344	3,937	508	83,856	83,856	4,125

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES**I. The London Market****RUBBER**

The London 'Spot' quotation for Plantation First Latex Crepe on Tuesday, October 6, 1931, was $3\frac{3}{16}d.$

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 3, 1931 were 79,246 tons, a decrease of 809 tons on September 26, 1931 inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 3, 1931 were 54,677 tons, a decrease of 102 tons on September 26, 1931 inventory.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, October 8, 1931

The following report on the Madras Market is made available to us through the courtesy of Messrs. Huson Tod & Co.:—

Planting shares have had a disappointing fortnight and have been almost completely neglected by the Investor, who has been attracted more to Industrial concerns. The drop in the value of the £ sterling and Rupee in terms of other currencies should however materially assist Indian companies. The better class scrips have been in demand, but there are no sellers at anywhere near buyers' prices, and buyers are unwilling to increase their bids beyond what are really sentimental figures. *Peria-karamalai Non-Participating* are in demand at around Rs. 17 and *Peermades* at Rs. 10.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£ 1	0	2 6	...
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£ 1	0	6 3	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£ 1	0	8 3	+ 2/3d.
4. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£ 1	1	7 6	...
5. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 7½	..
6. Pullangode Rubber	...	£ 1	0	3 9	...
7. Kani Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	2 6	...
8. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£ 1	0	14 3	+ 2/3d.
9. Travancore Rubber	..	£ 1	0	7 6	+ 1/3d.



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Safer Smoother Running

WHETHER you use your car every day or only occasionally, you can be sure of tyre satisfaction if you fit 'Fort' Dunlop. Strength—durability—long mileage—safety—are provided by 'Fort' Dunlop in a greater measure than ever. The bold tread of special compounded rubber provides maximum traction with minimum wear. The cord casing of heavy cotton fabric ensures utmost efficiency in the finished tyre. The special breaker strip construction provides greater protection against stone bruises and concussion damage. Every motorists who rides on 'Fort' Dunlop tyres enjoys the benefits of over 40 years' experience in tyre manufacture!

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD.
MOUNT ROAD **MADRAS**

II. The Madras Market—(Continued)

Rupee Companies		Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	...	1
Cochins Rs. 15	...	...	6
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	...	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	...	15	17½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	...	Noml.
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	...	2
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	10	14
Peria Karamalaik Rs. 15	...	...	27
" (Rs. 15) Non-participating	..	...	19
Periashoias Rs. 10	...	12 as.	1
Periyars Rs. 10	...	1	1½
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	..	3	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	...	75
Vellemalais (Rs. 15)	..	...	11

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on September 29, 1931, totalled 1,554,236 lbs. The feature of the Sale was the marked increase in the value of low elevation growths. NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA.—Quality showed some falling off. Demand was maintained, prices following the course of quality. HIGH GROWN.—Quality particularly in the case of Uva teas was barely maintained. All descriptions were well supported but only on a slightly lower basis of value. MEDIUM GROWN.—The selection offered was of quite a useful character though quality in some cases showed a decline. Broken grades met with very active demand, a general advance of 3 to 5 cents being established. Leaf grades also met with support at 2 to 4 cents advance. LOW GROWN.—Offerings from these districts came to a very active market. Broken Orange Pekoes sold readily at 10 to 12 cents rise. Broken Pekoes advanced 6 to 8 cents, while leaf grades were in demand at an advance of 6 to 10 cents. Commonest kinds were also in request at approximately similar increases. FANNINGS AND DUSTS.—Finest sorts sold slowly at a decline, especially where quality was inferior. Common descriptions were actively bid for at 6 to 9 cents higher rates as compared with last week's values.

South Indian Teas in Auction of September 22, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Ibex Lodge	5,605	1·06
Chittavurrai	11,928	97
Do.	13,126	96

RUBBER.—There was a small Sale on September 24, 1931, totalling only about 73 tons. Following the uncertain exchange position there was a strong and active market with a considerable rise in prices. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet opened at 13 cents and subsequently firmed to 13½ cents showing an advance of 2½ cents on last week's prices. Fair and Off quality sheet met with strong support and was 2 to 2½ cents dearer while inferior quality sheet showed a rise of about 1½ cents. Contract Crepe was strong at 13½ cents showing a rise of 2½ cents on previous rates. Off Crepe was well competed for and showed a similar rise while a good market ruled for Mottled Brown sorts which were 1½ cents dearer. There was a strong market for all grades of Scrap Crepe. No. 1 sorts were 1½ cents up on last rates while dark and black sorts were 2½ cents dearer. After being neglected last week inferior earth sorts were wanted at 9½ to 9¾ cents. There was no Scrap offering in the Auction.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

September 20, 1931 to October 3, 1931 (inclusive).

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ...	...	0·16	0·16
2. Kalthuritty.	2·80	N.R.	N.R.	25. Kotagiri ...	...	...	...
3. Kallar Bdge.	3·04	0·53	3·57	26. Ootacamund	0·70	...	0·70
4. Koney ...	4·29	...	4·29	27. Yercaud ...	...	0·14	0·14
5. Pattanapura.	5·34	0·17	5·51	28. Mango Range	0·90	0·30	1·20
6. Kumbazha...	3·23	0·13	3·36	29. Devala ...	2·11	1·38	3·49
6a Peravanthan.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola.	0·63	0·41	1·04
6b Aneikolam...	4·27	...	4·27	31. CALICUT ...	2·59	0·13	2·72
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ...	2·66	0·20	2·86
8. Twyford ...	6·51	0·68	7·19	33. Vayitri ...	1·76	0·05	1·81
9. V'periyar ...	1·05	0·32	1·37	34. Manantoddi	1·32	0·33	1·65
10. Kalaar ...	4·67	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ...	1·20	0·46	1·66
11. Chittuvurrai ...	...	...	...	36. Sidapur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. BODI'KANUR	...	...	...	37. Ghatted Hulia	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	2·55	0·04	2·59	38. Pollibetta ...	0·31	1·03	1·34
14. Mooply ...	1·84	0·15	1·99	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	1·82	0·32	2·14	40. Saklaspur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	3·64	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamane ...	3·12	1·99	5·11
17. POLLACHI	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur...	0·69	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy...	1·41	0·08	1·49	43. Merthisubgey.	0·80	0·51	1·31
19. Karapara ...	2·15	N.R.	N.R.	44. Kelagur ...	0·54	0·70	1·24
20. Pullengode ..	...	...	...	45. Durgadbettta.	0·96	0·73	1·69
21. Nilambur ...	0·61	0·07	0·68	46. MANGALORE ...	4·66	1·80	6·46
22. Naduvattam	1·54	0·01	1·55	47. MADRAS ...	0·57	0·11	0·68
23. Nilgiri Peak	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.				

N. R. No Return received

TEA

STATEMENT OF TEA TRANSSHIPPED FROM SOUTH INDIA, CALCUTTA,
JAVA AND SUMATRA DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1931.

	South India Lbs.	Calcutta Lbs.	Java & Sumatra Lbs.
United Kingdom ...	21,235	...	...
Continent ...	1,796	...	...
United States of America ...	45,607	...	...
Australia ...	27,186	...	...
Iraq ...	12,445	...	...
Other countries ...	12,125	...	...
Canada ...	43,683	...	...
Madras ...	...	...	1,125
	164,077	...	1,125

-From the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 22]

October 24, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

IT is most encouraging to find that the improvement in tea prices, which have displayed a rising tendency for the last few weeks at the Mincing Lane Auctions, has been sustained. This improvement in *Improved Market for Tea* the prices for the commodity has naturally been welcome to South Indian Tea producers who have found it very difficult, and in some cases impossible, to make profits in face of recent extremely low prices and whilst at the beginning of this month, Southern India Tea was more than 1d. per lb. above the previous week, it was still, at 9½d. per lb., a good deal lower than it ought to be.

The Tea Market however seems to be decidedly on the up-grade and although the strongest rumours of a reimposition of the duty on tea with a preference on Empire-grown Teas, anticipated in the Chancellor's Emergency Budget, proved false, Empire Tea producers will be heartened by the rise in price of the commodity, especially the common producer, for the feature at the sales has been the advance in price of low-grade teas.

The improved demand for tea has come at a most opportune moment and has no doubt been influenced by the depreciation in sterling which has placed Java and Sumatra teas at a decided disadvantage.

Provided the next few sales continue to be equally good as seems highly probable, there can be no question as to the future prospects of the industry and it is to be hoped that with the large quantity of tea coming on the market just now, quality will be maintained.

AN interesting summary of this report will be found on page 523 *et seq.* of this issue, and in the Report proper the significant fact that coffee, although never able to compete with tea in cheapness, can yet be made fit for connoisseurs at a penny per cup, is gleaned. It is surprising therefore that so little coffee is drunk at home in comparison with the consumption of tea. According to the Report on the marketing of coffee, the relative proportions are about one to twelve, and the total annual consumption of coffee amounts to only $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. per head, whereas each member of the population drinks on an average $9\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of tea.

The chances of any considerable increase in the consumption of coffee seem to depend on various factors such as (*a*) price, (*b*) a narrowing of the margin between wholesale and retail prices and (*c*) the necessity of educating the customer to get the best out of coffee by making it properly, buying it frequently and in small quantities for immediate consumption.

There seems to exist, almost universally at home, a belief that the making of good coffee is a mystery known only to a few, and judging by the results of the coffee put before one in most hotels, restaurants, etc., this belief is well founded. The fact remains however that it is as easy to make good coffee as tea, provided that the coffee used is fresh, and there must be enough of it. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of making known far and wide the simple methods of preparation and the best advertisement for coffee is the beverage itself, well prepared and served hot.

The Nineteenth Report of the Imperial Economic Committee, which runs to some 70 pages and contains a number of tables and charts is well worth reading, being full of interesting and instructive matter; it is written in such a manner as to stimulate demand and the value of demonstration as a telling method of advertisement, is emphasised.

THE Combined Planters XV from the Anamallais and High Range have gone one better than last year (when they became joint-holders), and for the first time in their history have succeeded in winning *Madras Rugger* this Trophy outright by defeating the Madras Gymkhana in *Tournament* the Final by 7 pts. to Nil. That the victory fell to the better team, both in respect to the quality of their play and the determination displayed, is undisputed, and no one will grudge them their success, least of all the Madras team. R. Walker and the splendid side, under his leadership, did all that was expected of them and are to be heartily congratulated on their success. On the form displayed this year in Madras, they should go a long way in the All-India Tournament to be held here next season, and it should not be beyond their powers to win it outright.

A short account of the Final will be found further on in this issue.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR

Increasing Demands for Space

It is extremely gratifying to note that increased space is required for the heavy and textile sections of the British Industries Fair to be held in February of next year (*says Commercial Bulletin*).

The fair buildings at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, are to be extended at a cost of £20,000 in order to accommodate the new sections which have been announced for the 1931 Fair and to meet increasing demands for space among old exhibitors.

Old buildings covering one and a half acres are being pulled down and three new roofs, covering an acre each will bring the total inside letting space up to 250,000 square feet, or over three times that let in 1920, when the Birmingham Section was started. For the next Fair there will be 13 acres of exhibition buildings in all at Castle Bromwich, with 30 acres of ground available for further extensions.

All the buildings at Olympia, London, with a total exhibiting area of 300,000 square feet, are to be used for the Fair and there is expected to be some difficulty in meeting the demands for space which are likely to be made. Application forms issued by the Department of Overseas Trade to manufacturers, numbered 10,000.

In the new Textile section at the White City, London, which is to cover all branches of the industry, the four halls originally allotted were found, within a week of announcing the exhibition, to be inadequate and four additional halls are now being filled up rapidly.

* * * *

THE ECONOMY OF MOTOR COACH TRAINS

The superiority of the petrol-driven and rubber-tyred coach to the cumbersome steam train has been demonstrated beyond cavil on the roadway, but it is still more remarkable when tested under the equal conditions of running on rails. A director of the French State railways has given a contemporary the following points of contrast: In the case of a steam train on one of these unremunerative local lines, there are an engine and a first-class coach, a second and a third class, and in all perhaps a score of passengers. Three or four times daily this huge length of almost empty carriages is hauled backwards and forwards at an absurdly slow pace, across miles of track. In France the average weight of a local train, complete with its engine and with a passenger-carrying capacity of 108, amounts to 120 tons. There is, in other words, over one ton of train deadweight to be hauled for every passenger when the train is full. When it is only one-third full, as happens so often, the train deadweight per passenger is as much as three tons. With the new type of motor coach driven along the same rails, but with pneumatic tyres, the deadweight per passenger is only 385 lb. at full carrying capacity. These motor rail coaches can actually be built so as to be lighter than motor omnibuses, because running on the dead level of steel rails they have to withstand fewer shocks. One motor coach carrying 24 to 30 passengers would be sufficient in hundreds of cases to replace a local train, but the elasticity of

the system lies in the fact that as there is no locomotive with tender, an extra motor coach can be got ready at any moment with the least possible delay to deal with a sudden increase in traffic.—*The Rubber Age.*

READING AT MEALS

In the manuals of etiquette it is laid down that no person desiring to appear as a member of really polished society will ever be seen dining alone in an hotel unaccompanied by a book.

Thus the hall-mark of distinction and refinement is officially given in maturity to a practice which the governors of our adolescent conduct see fit to condemn. For, they say, these mentors of our bodies, to read at the table is an anti-social habit : it results in moroseness of mind and in round shoulders.

One of the first acts of the emancipated life that is entered upon by those who leave school and home for college or business is the act of propping a book against the hot-water jug of the college-room or lodging-house breakfast table, and beginning the first day of the new life by reading at breakfast. But this is rather a gesture than an indulgence ; for the post-prandial lecture or train must ever be more in the reader's mind than the book before him and, in practice, the breakfast-book gives place to the morning-paper which is not so much read as crumpled at meals. Reading at luncheon is a sign of failure in life, those who read while they lunch being either without friends or without afternoon engagements. Reading at tea is an offence against the book ; tea being a meal taken without implements, so that the tea-reader will be the book-butterer. He will stain his pages with the drippings from tea-cup and will even fold into them crumbs and, sometimes, plums of cake. Reading at dinner is Not Done excepting when alone in hotels.

The true reader at meals reads at supper-time, with his candle, his lamp, his loaf of bread or his bottle of wine as the prop of his book and the whole night before him for enjoyment.

As for the matter of his reading, it will be found that at breakfast the newspaper, at lunch the short story or essay, at tea the library novel of the baser sort, may best be read : but, for the evening-reader, all books are good according to their kind. Those who, being under female tyranny, are not allowed more than one hour for their supper, must be warned against detective stories and tales which once taken up, cannot be laid aside until they are finished. Those of a queasy stomach will eschew tales of crime or realistic accounts of the habits of savage tribes at prayer and civilized men at war.

It is not advisable to read poetry at supper, for either the supper will grow cold because of the wonder of the reading, or will be chewed in time to the rhythm of the verse, and this is bad for the food.

Works of science and criticism should not be read at meals lest the reader be tempted to interrupt his eating in order to test the truth of an experiment or to verify the reference of some critic.

Finally, if the nobler works of fiction be chosen for supper reading, let the reader beware lest he be about to become not only a Reader at Meals but also a Reader in Bed.—By NAOMI ROYDE-SMITH (*specially written for the National Book Council*).

RUBBER EXPERIMENTAL STATION, MUNDAKAYAM.

REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1931.

I. LABORATORY WORK:

(1) *Distinctive features of Clones.*—Investigations have been continued and from the data obtained it seems improbable that study of one single character will be sufficient in all cases to distinguish between clones. Further, up to the present time, no method of distinguishing between lengths of budwood from different clones has come to light. Study has now been made of the following :—

- (a) Shape, size and colour of the seed.
- (b) Leaf data.
- (c) Anatomical features.
- (d) Latex reaction.

(a) *Seed.*—Seeds have been collected individually from all the budded plants which have reached the seeding stage, and the shape, the colour (shades of brown and grey), and, to a certain extent, the size have been found to be characteristic of the clone. This fact has, of course, been known for some time and provides an almost infallible method of sorting out the individual clones in a mixed plantation. Unfortunately the method is only applicable when the plants have reached a stage when tapping operations can be commenced, and it is of no use with young plants when these are of an age and size where replacement of inferior members would be possible.

(b) *Leaf Measurement.*—This method has been reported on in previous reports. It has been found very useful in the great majority of cases. When measurements are made however, it is necessary to use at least 30 leaves from each plant to be examined, otherwise the means of the ratios are not sufficiently accurate. Also normal leaves only must be taken. It occasionally happens that leaves on young plants are abnormally elongated and appear ribbon-like, attaining in extreme cases a length of 2 ft. or more. These are useless for the purpose, as also are those which have been distorted by mite or other insect attack in their very early stages. Provided these precautions are taken, the method can be usefully employed in budwood nurseries, where the labelling of certain plants is suspect.

(c) *Anatomical features.*—Little of general application is expected from this, but it is thought that a study of the region of the cork cambium and outer tissues may afford in some cases a clue to the origin of the material. It is feared, however, that the nature of the first cork formed may be dependent on environmental conditions, and this would preclude the comparison of imported material with that grown in South India.

(d) *Latex reaction.*—Work was started on this point early in the quarter, and, on the publication of Bobiloff's full report, it was found that the same reaction had been studied but from a different point of view. In both cases the enzyme content of the latex was the point investigated. Bobiloff used as reagents substances which hastened and intensified the action of the enzymes to form coloured substances from other constituents of the latex. In this laboratory the reagents added were substances known to give coloured products when acted on by the enzymes. It seems probable that

a combination of the two might provide a reagent which would prove of use at least in certain cases.

Bobiloff found, as would be expected, that the reaction varied with the height up the tree from which the latex was drawn, and finally confined his test to latex obtained from petioles of leaves not yet completely unfolded. If the test can only be applied satisfactorily to material of this description, it will naturally be of only limited application and be entirely useless for testing budwood on arrival from abroad or from distant estates.

It is thought however that by combining the reagents as mentioned above, a method might be evolved by which material of this description could be tested.

(2) *Transpiration*.—During September Mr. Abraham has been employed in making measurements of the Transpiration from known areas of rubber leaf surface. The experiment was in the nature of a preliminary trial in connection with the work which was intended on the water requirements of rubber throughout the seasons. Owing to lack of facilities for the control of humidity, temperature, light, etc., no valuable data were obtained. Had it been possible even to obtain continuous records of the variations of these conditions, figures of some value might have been obtained.

(3) *Germination, etc.*.—Mr. Abraham has also succeeded, by the use of a method employed some time ago in the Dutch East Indies, in obtaining two independent plants from one seed. The method may not be of great application but should prove useful when the first seeds are obtained from cross pollination experiments. Further, the idea occurred that material might be provided in this way for a critical test of the 'Tube Bore Theory' should such be attended in the future.

II. FIELD WORK :

(a) *Budding*.—Little budding has been possible owing to weather conditions. One clone only has been added to the Budwood nursery and 45 plants in an old nursery have been budded on opposite sides with buds from different clones. All possible combinations of 9 promising clones have been made and it is thought that the resulting plants may be of use should it be intended to make any of the crosses there represented.

(b) *Diseases*.—Phytophthora attack was severe during August, and while the mature leaf was retained all over, the young top shoots and the younger plants in the budwood nursery, etc., suffered severely.

Numerous cases of Pink disease have also occurred and been treated.

Bark Rot has also been extensive in spite of the conscientious use of 'Candarsan'. While the area under tapping is not sufficiently large to enable one to express an opinion on this disinfectant, it is thought that the outbreak of disease has been greater than it should have been.

(c) *Loss of Water from Soil*.—A small experiment laid out according to modern methods is being arranged to test the efficiency of different methods of conserving moisture in the soil during the dry weather. A full description of the experiment will be left on my departure.

(d) *Tapping*.—One tree has been taken out of the tapping block owing to an old injury on the tapping panel, otherwise the same trees as previously reported on are represented in the attached survey of yield figures.

Clone	Estate of origin	No. of trees tapped	June, July and August		April and May	
			Average per tapping	Average per tapping per c.m. of cut	Average per tapping	Average per tapping per c.m. of cut
P	Kadamankulam	98	6.81	.268	5.21	.208
Z	Yendar	7	4.91	.209	3.94	.168
X	"	4	5.68	.219	2.82	.103
Y	"	2	7.71	.322	7.25	.330
ad	Aneikulam	2	5.21	.237	4.30	.194
af	"	9	7.65	.308	6.36	.256
ag	"	3	8.49	.348	6.06	.264
ay	"	1	9.94	.414	5.75	.240
bb	"	1	8.18	.347	5.44	.234
av	"	2	4.82	.220	4.37	.197
aw	"	1	10.79	.463	5.81	.246
ac	"	1	8.43	.340	8.31	.333
ah	"	2	3.57	.145	2.25	.177
ar	"	5	6.52	.273	5.51	.219
am	"	1	5.37	.213	2.63	.134
as	"	2	7.61	.333	7.69	.335
al	"	1	4.19	.170	3.38	.139
S	Redlynch	1	12.19	.466	10.50	.376
T	"	2	4.73	.185	4.30	.162
*U	Nemeny	1	10.70	.493	6.93	.300
*V	"	2	11.34	.502	6.69	.261
r	Kutikul	1	2.88	.133	1.53	.060
n	Mundakayam	18	9.65	.391	7.11	.276
m	"	22	5.60	.238	4.28	.181
sa	Shaliacary	1	6.84	.267	5.06	.212
e	Station	2	3.65	.150	2.56	.104
f	"	1	5.6	.266	5.12	.237
g	"	1	4.36	.177	3.69	.162

(e) *Nursery*.—A nursery containing 5,000 seeds has been laid down largely with seeds collected from individual trees and kept separate.

(f) *Seeds*.—Samples of seed from as many as possible of the tappable trees have been collected, varnished and preserved separately for clone recognition purposes.

III. GENERAL:

(a) A subject index to all the articles on rubber growing in the periodicals available at the Station has been completed.

Complete volumes of the more important periodicals available have been bound.

(b) Attention has been given to the draining of the main cart road and two corners have been repaired.

(c) The Station was visited by the Rubber Advisory Committee on Sunday, August 20.

* There is reason to believe that the trees labelled V should be included under U or vice versa. Insufficient trees of these clones are available at present to enable a definite decision to be made.

IV. WEATHER RECORDS:

The rainfall for the quarter July-September 1931 has amounted to 91.97 inches distributed as below:—

Month		1st Fortnight	2nd Fortnight
July	...	16.79	14.03
August	...	30.67	20.46
September	...	4.05	5.97
Total	...	51.51	40.46 = 91.97

MUNDAKAYAM,
5th October, 1931.

R. G. TAYLOR,
Rubber Scientific Officer.

— o : —

ANGLO-DUTCH PLANTATIONS OF JAVA, LTD.

COL. SIR ROBERT WILLIAMS ON THE OUTLOOK
FOR RUBBER AND TEA.

The twenty-first ordinary general meeting of the Anglo-Dutch Plantations of Java, Ltd., was held on July 17, at the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.

Col. Sir Robert Williams, *Bt.* (the Chairman), in the course of his speech, said: Our company comes of age in very difficult times. Last year the shadow of the present depression was already over us, and you will remember for that reason, although our profits for the year 1929 were distinctly larger than for the previous year, we did not increase our dividend so that we might conserve our resources. Necessary as this was a year ago, it is far more so now. It would be unsound to withdraw resources so necessary for maintaining our position in order to pay a dividend, which at the best could only be a very small one. The tide of prosperity has continuously receded, and for the first time in the history of our company the spread of our interests over many different commodities has not aided us.

CRUSHING TAXATION

We are accustomed to hear a great deal nowadays of the ill-effects of excessive taxation on company enterprises. It is easy to realise what is meant by the phrase 'crushing burden of taxation' when it is considered that our company pays 12½ cent. of its profits in Java income-tax, and after that 4s. 6d. in the £ British taxation on its balance-sheet profits, and not only that, but a similar rate on approximately two-thirds of its yearly depreciations. It is not surprising that many companies, however reluctantly, may be considering whether it is possible to continue their British registration when it imposes such a handicap, additionally crushing under such circumstances as exist to-day. When competition is so keen, it is only too obviously a handicap to a company like ours, with a yearly deduction from its resources of about three times the amount its competitors in the N.E.I. have to pay.

Turning to the local Java balance-sheet, the profit, which for the most part determines our income for the year, amounted to £103,253, against £442,304 for the previous year. This clearly reflects the decline in values of our various products.

TEA

We have 26,453 acres of tea planted, of which 376 acres were opened last year for the development of our Tjiater estate. This, the latest of our tea estates, is situated at an elevation of from 3,500 to 4,500 feet, and we have great hopes of good yields combined with quality. Apart from this, we have still some 1,900 acres young gardens not in production, while from the producing acreage we obtained 12,156,089 lbs. of tea, or an approximate yield of 504 lbs. per acre. Our total tea crop amounted to 12,902,277 lbs., of which 746,188 lbs. consisted of leaf purchased from the native gardens. The yield of 504 lbs. compared with 592 lbs. for 1929 is accounted for by the agreement to restrict, which was general throughout the tea-producing world, with the exception of China and Japan. Thanks mainly to our forward contract of half our crop at 1s. 3d. landed London, and also to improved quality, the actual price obtained for our tea is highly satisfactory, the net price f.o.b. Java being 11·33d. against 11·3d. in 1929 and 11·65d. in 1928. The reduced crop was detrimental to the cost of production, which advanced from 8·20d. in 1929 to 8·60d. in 1930. Our tea estates are in first-rate condition.

CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS

What are the prospects for the current year? Strenuous efforts were made to renew the restriction scheme for a further period, but the scheme of 1930 had one unexpected result. Java producers, in accordance with their agreement, considerably curtailed their purchases of native leaf. Unfortunately, owing to a large extent to the demand for the cheaper packet teas in England, there proved to be a ready market for this type of tea. This induced the erection of Chinese factories uncontrolled by the agreement of the European producers, with the consequence that the Java production, instead of falling the 10 million pounds anticipated by the agreement, only showed a reduction of about a million pounds. An unexpectedly larger quantity of tea thus came forward from Java last year. Consumption in many directions proved singularly disappointing. Altogether, some 25 to 30 million pounds which should normally have been absorbed in other directions found their way into the market. After, therefore, considerable discussion and negotiations, it was generally felt that a price restriction would in the end be more efficacious than an artificial one. Tea is particularly suited to respond to a price restriction, as an over-supply is certain to hit most severely the commonest kinds, the manufacturers of which are therefore the earliest to be forced out of production. I do not think there is such a thing possible as a permanent overproduction of good quality tea, therefore the tendency of a price restriction is for everyone to try to improve their quality by producing less, and, where the tea is of such a nature that it cannot be improved, that class of tea will be naturally curtailed by the price factor. As if in recognition of this fact, when restriction for the current year was abandoned the market took on at first a stronger tendency.

It was not an easy thing to determine the exact policy for our company to adopt. On the one hand, we have as from the beginning of this year half our crop sold forward at the satisfactory price of 1s. 1½d. per pound London. The lower we could get our cost the greater would be the profit on the contract half; on the other hand, the lowest cost could only be obtained by full production, which would mean a deterioration of quality. We decided to adopt a half-way policy of keeping up our quality as far as

possible, but not maintaining quite such strictly fine plucking as we did last year. We now estimate an output for the year of 15,000,000 lbs. Working on these lines, while generally maintaining quality, we have been able to make a most satisfactory and substantial reduction in our cost price; thus the cash cost at the end of June was approximately 5d. per pound f. o. b. Java, while the selling price of our free tea has averaged so far this year about 7½d., which still shows us a small margin of profit without taking into consideration the very satisfactory profit from the contract half.

RUBBER

Our Rubber areas extend to 31,910 acres, 529 of which were planted during the last year. Including the small addition we have still 4,244 acres not in production. The rubber output amounted to 13,211,630 lb. showing a very small increase on the previous year. The company, in general agreement with other companies throughout the Dutch East Indies, Malaya, and Ceylon, ceased tapping during the month of May, and, in addition, from the end of September we closed down those areas the latex from which is not manufactured in sprayed form, and therefore is outside the contract with the General Rubber Company of New York. The net selling price for the year showed a decline compared with the previous year of 4½d. per pound, the price realised being 5½d., compared with practically 9½d. in 1929. The cost price showed a fall from 6½d. in 1929 to 5½d. in 1930. This covers every possible charge, including London expenses and, in addition, includes 1·15d. per lb. on account of depreciation. The melancholy fact remains that the gross profit fell from £285,000 to £77,000, which means a small net loss.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS OUTPUT REGULATION

The company has been a strong supporter of the Rubber Growers' Association in their efforts to bring about compulsory restriction under Government control in all rubber-growing countries. It is possible that by this method the future prosperity of the industry may be assured. This company will not be a party to any form of piecemeal restriction. In my opinion there are only two methods by which the present over-production can be adequately ended. One I have mentioned; the other is the price factor. If or when the price reaches a sufficiently low figure cessation of tapping will become universal, and, great though the hardship will be by the time this position is reached, the result will, at any rate for a time, be efficacious. In my opinion even this price factor will never be a satisfactory permanent cure. As soon as, owing to the general cessation of tapping, the price commences to rise again, tapping will be recommenced, with a production probably larger than ever, owing to the enforced rest the trees will have enjoyed. Permanently settled conditions can only be obtained under a system which has the effect of regulating supply, and, however unwilling Governments may be to shoulder the responsibility, sooner or later they may have to do so or face a permanently unsettled industry. Piece-meal restriction, with every company doing as little or as much as it likes, is, in my view, doomed to failure. A price between 3d. and 4d. enables—perhaps I might even say forces—many to hang on who otherwise would definitely stop tapping, while it encourages the native not only to tap, but to tap more strenuously, as the lower the price he receives the greater quantity he must make to provide his livelihood; therefore, in my opinion, companies which can produce very cheaply and have no fears with regard to the quantity of their available bark are definitely injuring their

own interests and doing no permanent service to the industry by any measures to curtail their production unduly.

Your directors are convinced that the best course is to continue normal production, while holding themselves ready at all times to support any scheme universally adopted which will be for the permanent good of rubber producers. Our estimate for this year on an unrestricted basis is 15,289,000 lb., which is over 560 lb. an acre, an excellent average over such an extensive acreage, especially as practically two-thirds of it was planted before selected seed became available. The cost price had been reduced at the end of June to under $\text{9}\frac{1}{2}d.$ f. o. b., which covers everything and includes $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound depreciation. This is a fine achievement, and those responsible in Java are to be congratulated.

The Chairman then dealt with their interests in coffee, cinchona, rice, kapok, sisal, and tapioca, and, referring to the Sumatra estates, said it was certain that the present condition of over-production in almost all Eastern commodities had put the clock back very considerably as far as the development of Sumatra was concerned, and the optimistic hopes engendered by the conditions existing six years ago had vanished.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

— :o: —

MADRAS RUGBY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

FINAL

Anamallai-High Range Combined XV—2 goals (1 dropped,
1 penalty) 7 pts. Madras Gymkhana—Nil.

Ideal weather, not too sunny, a slight breeze and the ground in perfect condition, favoured the meeting of the above sides on the Madras Gymkhana ground on Saturday, 10th October before a very large attendance. The game was contested at a fine pace from start to finish and whilst not being spectacular, was full of hard and vigorous play with the tackling so decisive on both sides that neither line was crossed and the defence was always superior to the attack.

There was little to choose between the sides up to half-time and for a quarter of an hour before the interval, the Gymkhana outsides were in the ascendant, developing attack after attack, the backs handling beautifully and only remarkable tackling by the Planters kept their line intact. In the second half the Planters' forwards under the superior leadership of Walker, established a definite supremacy over their opponents and controlled the game, the Gymkhana rarely showing to advantage in their attempts to open up the play.

Mention must be made of the magnificent penalty goal dropped by Coleridge just before half-time—it was a similar effort to his kick a year ago, from almost the same position 10 yards inside his opponent's half. This lead gave the Planters much encouragement and a fine opportunist dropped goal by Arbuckle in the closing stages, clinched the result.

All the Planters' forwards were splendid, Nicholson hooked very well and in the loose Walker, who was the best forward on the field, was excellently supported by Radford, O'Hara, Robertson and Thorpe. Aitken and Laird played a capital game at half and whilst all the

three-quarters were very sound in defence, Arbuckle was outstanding in attack with Speer the next prominent.

Coleridge at full back made Stone's absence not felt, which is indeed a compliment. Besides his dropped goal already referred to, he several times gained much ground by his long kicks to touch and was always in the right place, never giving his side the least anxiety.

The Planters made good use of a slight breeze behind them in the first half when they seldom allowed the Gymkhana to get really dangerous until after a quarter of an hour's play, the latter seemed to find their form and their three-quarters indulged in some fine passing movements, the ball being given and taken at full speed. In turn Palmer, Dodd, Kenneth and Aitchison were all nearly in, but the defence held out and at the interval Planters were leading by a penalty goal (3 pts.) to nil.

Soon after the interval the Planters' forwards, well nursed by judicious kicking on the part of Coleridge and excellently led by Walker, set up a continuous attack which was well sustained by the backs. The Planters were getting the ball in two scrums out of three and penned the Gymkhana in their '25' for fully 10 minutes during which Robertson, Laird, Speer and Aitken were all near scoring, but desperate efforts by the Gymkhana held them upon the line and eventually Thomas, the full-back relieved with a beautiful kick to half way. The Gymkhana now counter-attacked, and strong runs by Kenneth and Dodd were only checked with difficulty, and although they strove hard they could not succeed, and toward the end, Arbuckle dropped a lovely goal after scrambling play in their '25'.

Shortly after 'No-side' came, and with it the end of a hard, clean and sporting game.

TEAMS

Planters—

R. H. COLERIDGE (full back)

T. W. BROOKE, K. H. V. ARBUCKLE, A. R. JACK and ..
S. B. SPEER (three-quarters)

W. P. LAIRD (scrum) and J. D. AITKEN

R. WALKER (Capt.), F. F. RADFORD, J. S. NICHOLSON, F. C. O'HARA,
J. M. ROBERTSON, C. F. CLARK, J. H. WILKES and ..
R. T. THORPE (forwards)

Madras Gymkhana—

F. M. THOMAS (full back)

I. A. D. AITCHISON, W. S. KENNETH, D. M. PASSMORE and ..
S. A. PALMER (three-quarters)

E. M. KILBANE (scrum) and B. B. DODD

R. C. PATERSON, E. J. M. LEIGH, R. E. PETRES, R. M. KING,
R. HENSON, D. J. CUMMING, F. C. CROSS and ..
C. CAYLEY (forwards)

E. L. H.

MORE COFFEE DRUNK IN INDIA

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE'S REPORT

RAPID RISE OF EMPIRE PRODUCTION

The increasing importance of the home market for Indian coffee is stressed in the Imperial Economic Committee's latest report on 'COFFEE' (H. M. Stationery Office, 6d. net). India now absorbs 20 to 25 per cent. of the crop. The consumption in India in 1930 was nearly four times the amount consumed in 1925.

The outstanding feature of the trade in recent years has been the rise of production in the Empire. Nearly one-half of the coffee imported into the United Kingdom, is now Empire-grown. This has been due to the wonderful development of the coffee-growing industry in East Africa, where export has jumped from 2,000 tons in 1913 to 30,000 tons in 1930, or fifteen times greater than it was in 1913. Coffee from Kenya and Tanganyika is now recognised as some of the finest in the world.

The Empire, in fact, produces more coffee than the United Kingdom drinks. Nearly half the coffee which goes to London is re-exported, mainly to Germany and, to a lesser extent, to the United States. London is the European central market for high-grade 'mild' coffees in spite of the small amount retained.

OVER-PRODUCTION IN BRAZIL

The stability of the coffee market is now threatened by severe over-production, in Brazil, where over half the world's supply of coffee is grown. The attempts to regulate price by holding surplus stocks off the market have indirectly stimulated planting. In years of good harvest, Brazil has recently grown more coffee than the year's supply for the whole world.

By the end of last year the surplus of production had grown to alarming proportions, and prices collapsed. Since then, thousands of bags have been taken out to sea and sunk, and over a million bags bartered for wheat with the United States. The Government has arranged to dispose of the surplus of about 21 million bags over a period of ten years, but, until future production is considerably reduced, the danger will not be over.

Empire-grown coffee has suffered from the collapse in prices, but owing to its better quality it has had a comparatively safe market. The Report urges Empire producers to concentrate on their best grades, to improve quality by research, and to co-operate in marketing.

TRIUMPH OF RESEARCH

Improvement of quality by research is discussed in the Report. Spraying for Black Rot and Leaf Disease in Southern India, has increased the crop by 2 cwts. an acre at a cost of less than the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ a cwt. 'Planters are eagerly availing themselves of so practical a result of scientific aid to industry, and the number of acres sprayed in 1930 is said to be ten times the number sprayed 3 years previously.' Seed-selection and hybridisation are promising methods of improving the crop.

Consumption of coffee in the United Kingdom is not going up. It rose after the War, but is now about stationary. For every cup of coffee drunk by the British consumer, the American drinks nearly thirteen. The Report suggests that the reason is psychological. People think that coffee-making is a mysterious and complicated affair. The result is that the *per capita* consumption is only $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of coffee a year in the United Kingdom as against 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. consumed in the United States.

How to Make Coffee

'There is no mystery about it', says the Report, 'and, tested by results, the simplest methods have never been bettered.' Coffee, they say, is just as easy to make as tea, but it must be fresh and there must be plenty of it. 'Stale coffee may be likened to the day-before-yesterday's newspaper. Though not quite without interest, it has lost its savour'. So important is this aspect of coffee-making considered in the United States, that a research fellowship has been established at Yale University to investigate deterioration in the flavour of coffee through age.

For making breakfast coffee, two ounces of ground coffee, the Report advises, should be used for each pint of water. This, with the same amount of milk, should make five cups. The ground coffee is put into a warm earthenware jug and freshly boiling water poured on. The liquid is well stirred, left to stand for five minutes and is ready to serve.

'Use Fresh Coffee'

'Use fresh coffee' is suggested as a slogan to increase sales. Coffee in the United Kingdom is a drink for the few and not for the masses, and it is not likely that consumption can be increased very strikingly. But the Report suggests that 'there is an urgent need to educate the consumer to buy coffee frequently and in small quantities for immediate consumption.' This would serve the double purpose of improving the standard of coffee-making and stimulating sales. One grocer increased his weekly turnover from 80 lbs. to 896 lbs. by undertaking his own roasting in his shop.

Demand would also be stimulated by a narrowing of the margin between wholesale and retail prices, which in some cases is as much as 1/6d. a lb. If coffee were cheaper there would be less adulteration with chicory. 'It may come as a surprise to many that in the United Kingdom, one pound of chicory is consumed for every five pounds of coffee', the Report remarks. Chicory only costs 7½d. a pound and some coffee contains 40 per cent. of it.

ENGLAND SHOWS THE WAY

After all, the way to advertise tea is to advertise it. It's really just as simple as that. Selfish interests with axes to grind like to complicate matters, but Good Old Mother England, once she's roused, knows how to cut across lots and get the job done. Genuinely concerned about the inroads which foreign teas (chiefly Javas and Sumatras) are making in the United Kingdom, she has at last decided to do something about it. First, she brings all her competitive tea-producing colonies into a happy union to 'whoop it up' for Empire-Grown Tea. Next, she enlists in the enterprise the co-operation of certain Governmental agencies, like the Empire Marketing Board, and a great majority of the important tea distributing and blending firms. Then she goes to work *within the trade*, moving outward to the consumer with a well thought out campaign to make England Empire Tea Conscious—not Ceylon tea conscious, nor India tea conscious—and always with an advisory committee composed of representatives of the various branches of the tea trade, in order to get their support and advice on matters pertaining to the campaign generally. Under the able direction of a man like Mr. John Harpur, who won his spurs in India and who has an eye single to service, we prophesy for it a large measure of success.

WATCH YOUR STEP, JAVA!

Meanwhile, the Java tea merchants have decided to copy British India in seeking to increase tea consumption among the native population. To do this, they have stopped all foreign propaganda. This may be all right as regards England, where the drive for Empire, Grown Tea, directed mainly against the teas of the Dutch East Indies, is almost certain to result in a return of the tea duty with a preference for British teas, but it's all wrong for America where Java and Sumatra teas have made many friends. During the World War the United States offered a convenient dumping ground for Java teas. The propaganda started then flourished for a time, because it confined itself to the trade, but when it made a play for the consumer against the advice of its best friends here, disillusionment followed. Apparently disgusted with American tea politics, the Dutch have withdrawn from the American scene. Speaking in behalf of the distributing trade, which we know regrets the half-baked consumer publicity fiasco as much as we do, we should like to quote what one of Java's best known tea planters said in a recent utterance on this subject : ' It would seem bad policy to stop advertising our Java tea in America, especially in these times of over-production and apparently under-consumption ! '

— *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.*

-: O :-

THE 'DIFFERENCE'

PRICES FOR SOUTH AND NORTH INDIA TEAS

[We reproduce below a letter addressed to the Editor of the *Madras Mail* appearing in their issue of October 13, which will no doubt be of interest to our readers, and needs no comment from us.]

SIR,

I have been much interested in reading the *Planting Letter* in your issue of October 7. Your London Correspondent's letters are always very interesting, and I note he has taken up this matter of the serious unaccountable differences between South and North India averages. For example the figures for September 25 were :

					per lb. London.
					s. d.
North India	...	...	...	...	1 3·66
South India	...	...	...	...	0 9·27
Difference	...	...	...	...	0 6·39

It is very interesting to note "the various brokers' reports now agree that the Tea from the South is Decidedly Better."

This difference of 6·39d. per lb. is all the difference between just paying cost and a profit of 4d. to 6d. per lb. of tea, and it is high time the chief estates concerned took the matter up with buyers.

A certain South Indian estate which gets 3d. in London (say As. 11 Estate) sent a break to Colombo, and in almost the same week got beyond the Rupee for it (or As. 15 Estate) which, as Euclid says, is absurd.

The writer of this letter (who does not sell any tea in auctions anywhere) has seen a lovely B.O.P., very tippy with a fine liquor, from the Annamalais (not his own tea!) being sold in Bombay at As. 10 to As. 10 P. 6, which includes a profit to the seller of an anna per lb.! That same B.O.P. would have fetched about 8d. London, I suppose, in the present extraordinary state of affairs, though it is fully worth the 1s. 6d. or even 1s. 8d., being paid for B.O.P., no better, of Assam and Ceylon. A curious state of affairs, truly.

COONOOR,

October 8.

Yours faithfully,

'FINE DUST.'

THE TOURNEY

When that Septembre lieth in the lap
of fair Octobre, then the knights fare forth
To tourney and to feasts of chivalrie
also to bataille grim with sauvages
and Wogges and Oddes ; and had foredone them quite
But that through wizardry they vanished into air
or changed to villeins gaping open mouthed
at the array of knights and engines fere.
Now the Ap Morgan with his wizardry
Ruled the unruly throng as Marichal
Without his Queen, Morgan le Fay, for she
Was dallying in the valley of Jumbore.
But to his aid there came the Cardinal
Sir Wolsey hight, he of the red-topped hat
With brass bedight, to whom the merry quip
Came not amiss, after the day was done.
Then pleasaunce was to see the good knights all
Disport themselves at Raymond's festive board
For Raymond was Senechal of the mess
And with baked meats and brewis soothed their souls
The while the minstrel sang, stout old Sir Wat
Renowned in sport and feasts and minstrelsie.
Then pleasaunce was to hear the Lord of Kent
And eke Sir Middletoun
Singing the Song of the Bow.
As how one arrow pierced a tygre fell
and eke a tygresse als who dying broughte forth
Twin cubs still born so that one liddle shot
Felled four great beestes.
And then the Verderer, the young Lord Sprout
Led forth his hounds and loosed them to the chace
of Reynard slim, or eke, mischance Sir Hare.
But sooth to say there were no ladyes fayre
To view the pageant, their dole well hid the knights
It irketh them no whit.
But of the recreant and caitiff knights
Who came not to the jousts
It listeth not to tell.

L. N.

ADVERTISING TEA IN AMERICA : A SUGGESTION

The following poem ' à la Americain ' manner, appeared in *The Times* of July 13 and is too good to miss :—

Say, Bo, just stop an' listen
 An' let me put you wise ;
 I'll slobber you a bibful
 That'll sure be some surprise !
 You used to drink your highball
 Until some doggoned guy
 Went crazy with the heat, Sir,
 And now your country's dry.
 'Wal, I should smile !' you're saying :
 But the alcohol you get
 Is not the cat's pyjamas
 Like the old time open wet.
 Now poison isn't cheap, Bo ;
 I'll tell the world it's not !
 So read this *advertisement*
 Of a drink that's cheap an' hot.
 Maybe you think I'm bughouse
 Or woozy 'neath my thatch ;
 But I'm boasting Tea—and note, Sir,
 Ceylon Tea has no match !
 It keeps you from the boneyard ;
 It's Nature's Royal Straight ;
 So wrap yourself around it,
 And say, kid, ain't it GREAT ?

—KIM.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT NOTICES

PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION, ELLANAYAKANPATTI AGENCY

Till more permanent arrangements can be made, the address of the Ellanayakanpatti Agency will be as stated below :—

‘ M. G. Ghose, Agent, U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department,
 Near Timber Depot, Maniachi Station, Maniachi P.O.’

PALAMCOTTAH.

A. G. A. DUNNING, *Superintendent.*

*

*

SALEM DIVISION

Changes have taken place in the staff at the following Agencies, against which the names of the new Agents are given.

SALEM.—(Office at Suramangalam).

Mr. C. T. Govindaswamy Naidu,
 Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department, *Suramangalam.*

SANKARIDRUG.

Mr. Syed Khader Hussain,
 Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department, *Sankaridrug.*

DHARMAPURI.

Mr. P. S. Lakshminarasiman,
 Agent, U.P.A.S.I., Labour Department, *Dharmapuri.*

SALEM.

C. RICKETTS, *Superintendent.*

DISTRICT NOTES

COORG

**Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Coorg Planters' Association,
held in the Bamboo Club, Pollibetta, on Monday, 21st September 1931,
at 11 a.m.**

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), P. G. Tipping, A. L. Alexander, W. A. F. Bracken, L. Newcome, S. P. St. C. Raymond, D. J. Duncan, J. H. Sprott, G. Scotland, I. Bull, H. B. Babington, J. S. H. Morgan, E. C. H. Morgan, J. F. Mackintosh, B. S. Bucknall, J. L. Smyth, R. P. W. Potter, J. O. F. Maurice, R. B. Cunningham, Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland, Major H. S. Mullins, W. R. Wright and Mr. A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

By Proxy

Mr. F. W. Gerrard

Visitors :

Messrs. C. S. Iron, R. E. L. Luard, D. F. Mursell, W. E. Scott, Petrie Hay and J. M. Watt.

Read notice calling the meeting.

Before opening the meeting, the Chairman referred to the tragic death of Sir Stuart Pears and the Honorary Secretary was requested by the meeting to convey to Lady Pears the Planting Community's deepest sympathy in her great loss.

The minutes of the last meeting having been published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, were taken as read and confirmed.

U. P. A. S. I. Delegates' Report.—Copies of this had been circularised to all members, and it was duly adopted by the meeting.

Mr. Tipping proposed and Mr. Bracken seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls and Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland for acting as delegates at the Bangalore Meeting.

Under the same subject, Mr. Nicolls informed those present that at the Annual General Meeting of the S. I. P. B. F. the Chairman had suggested that local Associations might care to discuss the possibilities of raising a ONE DAY'S PAY FUND. The meeting agreed that the matter should be brought up at the next general meeting.

Coffee Scientific Department.—The question of an allotment from the accumulated funds of the U.P.A.S.I. for the purpose of experimenting with artificial drying of coffee as referred back by the U.P.A.S.I. was considered, and the meeting voted against the proposal.

The Chairman proposed and the meeting agreed that the Association should ask the Executive Committee to request Dr. Coleinau for the services of an Assistant to come and live in South Coorg to carry on the investigation of Mealy Bug and Cockchafer as recently started by the Coffee Scientific Officer.

The meeting agreed that the annual Coffee Scientific Cess not exceeding 1½ annas should be collected in the second half of the year.

* * * *

Coorg Legislative Council.—Mr. Nicolls received the meeting's approval to the following resolution being put before the Council:

"That this Council recommends to the Chief Commissioner: (1) That he be pleased to issue the necessary notification under Section 3 of the Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act, 1919, as extended to Coorg, declaring 'Coffee Borer Beetle' as an 'Insect Pest' under the Act and enforcing removal and destruction of all coffee trees visibly affected by such pest. (2) That he be pleased to sanction the omission of all clauses under the above section, which refer to compensation."

Correspondence.—Read U.P.A.S.I. Secretary's Report. Read Proceedings of the Executive Committee's Meeting. Read U.P.A.S.I.'s letter re payment of subscriptions. Read circular letter from Curing Firms concerning reduction in rates for curing of Coffee. Read letter LU/7 from the Secretary U.P.A.S.I. concerning the Estates Staff Association of South India. The meeting agreed that there was no objection in recognising the Association referred to so long as it continued to function on its present lines,

Read reply from District Magistrate re Promissory Notes.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to inquire the time-limit of a pro-note.

Other Business.—The Chairman informed the meeting that the Committee had considered the question of reduction in Coast Cart Rates but was of the opinion that nothing further could be done as the rates were reduced last season.

The meeting was informed that the Committee intended to examine the Coorg Labour Rules and the rates of coolies' way expenses as now paid by estates and that they hoped to put their recommendations up at the next meeting.

Mr. Morgan, on behalf of the Coffee Growers' Association, requested the Chairman to call an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of discussing their business with the Imperial Chemical Industries. It was agreed that the meeting should be held in the afternoon of October 11.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary and members of the Bamboo Club for the use of their room.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Sd) A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd) A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Coorg Planters' Association held in the North Coorg Club, Mercara, on Sunday, 11th October 1931, at 2-30 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. A. E. J. Nicolls (*Chairman*), A. L. Alexander, W. A. F. Bracken, W. R. Wright, P. G. Tipping, I. Bull, J. L. Smyth, B. S. Bucknall, J. H. Sprott, J. S. H. Morgan, G. Scotland, J. F. Mackintosh, L. Newcome, S. P. St. C. Raymond, R. P. W. Potter, J. B. Reid, Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland, Major D. N. Pitcairn and Mr. A. M. Webb (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitors:

Messrs. C. S. Iron, R. E. L. Luard, D. F. Mursell, K. H. Fraser and Major A. L. Hill.

Read notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman asked Col. Murland as Chairman of the Sub-Committee to address the meeting on the amended draft scheme for the better marketing of Coffee in India, as circulated to all members of the Coorg Planters' Association. At Col. Murland's request, Mr. Newcome spoke for the scheme, and explained a few proposed alterations.

After a long discussion in Committee, the following resolution proposed by Mr. J. H. Sprott and seconded by Major D. N. Pitcairn, was put to the vote, with the permission of the meeting :—

'That this Association favours the formation of the Coffee Growers' Association on the lines as laid down in the amended draft scheme.'

Carried Unanimously.

Mr. P. G. Tipping proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Sub-Committee for their arduous work in connection with the scheme as put before the meeting.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting ended.

(Sd.) A. M. WEBB,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) A. E. J. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE

Artificial Drying of Coffee

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

It is reported on page 424 of your issue of August 29 last that the U.P.A.S.I. proposes to incur an expenditure of Rs. 7,500 'to experiment with the artificial drying of coffee.'

May I therefore draw attention to an article on the subject in your issue of June 29, 1916—a reprint of which I enclose—written by Dr. R. D. Anstead and Mr. W. H. Reed?

The Coffee Drying Installation on Mavinkere Estate, Kalasa P.O., Kadur District, has been and is still in use there—since 1913 in fact. Mr. Reed would, I am sure, be pleased to show it, and to explain how it is worked to anyone interested in artificial coffee drying.

Re Mr. G. W. Owen's letter in the same issue complaining that 'he could not get a decent cup of coffee anywhere in England,' it was, I notice, written from Tunbridge Wells—a town where, in the branches of the Cadena Cafe, he could have got as good a cup of that beverage as he can ever have tasted.

44, PRIMROSE HILL ROAD, N.W. 3,
September 24, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
W. A. LEE.

MECHANICAL DRYING OF COFFEE ON THE ESTATE

By W. H. REED, ESQ., AND R. D. ANSTHEAD, ESQ., M.A.,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

In 1913 one of Messrs. W. McKinnon & Co.'s Coffee Dryers was installed at Mavinkere Estate, Kalasa, Mysore, and it was used to dry part of the 1914-15 crop. The machine was then not working quite properly,¹ and the trials made were purely experimental. The 1915-16 crop was almost entirely handled in the machine, and the results obtained may interest Coffee Planters in Southern India.

The machine installed is an Okrassa Improved Patent Dryer, Size I.,² the drying cylinder being eight feet in diameter and 3 feet long, and it cost £205 plus freight and insurance. Its capacity is 113 cubic feet, and it requires four horse power to run. The size of the building required to house the dryer is 26 x 16 feet, the height of the room with loft being 12 feet. At Mavinkere it is run with other machinery, the length of the main shaft being 30 feet and diameter 2½ inches, the counter-shaft for the fan being 5½ feet long, diameter 2 inches. The average oil consumption is ¼ gallon per hour.

The advantages which Messrs. McKinnon & Co. claim for this machine have all been realised in practice, viz., that it can hold a large charge of Coffee at one time; the hot air current is continuous and penetrative and not irregular in action;³ it can be charged completely at one operation from the loft above; its construction is simple and weight small.

Hot air at a known temperature, which can be regulated and controlled by means of a thermometer, is driven from a furnace burning wood by means of a fan into the cylinder containing the Coffee. This cylinder rotates on its axis, and as it does so the hot air is blown from the central shaft, which is perforated, through the coffee. The cylinder is constructed in two chambers, and as it rotates coffee falls in a stream from one into the other, being made, by means of baffles, to spread out so that the hot air blows through the mass of moving coffee, thus subjecting each individual bean to the same amount of drying. The moist air passes out of the cylinder continuously through perforated plates in its sides. It was found in practice that the best temperature at which to keep the hot air was seventy-five to eighty degrees.

The machine has been found very satisfactory. As compared with the usual method of sun-drying it saves the drying ground space and three coolies a day. Invariably during the picking season there is a week or ten days of wet or cloudy weather which hinders and delays sun-drying. With the Dryer one is absolutely independent, and can go on curing without any delay. A ton of Coffee can be picked, pulped, washed, dried, and despatched in four days. The usual procedure was to give the Coffee from the washing vats a preliminary air drying of two days, and then to finish it off in the dryer.

The colour of the Coffee dried in the machine is even, and there is a great difference in out-turn compared to sun-drying. The Coffee has been sold privately for the last two seasons, so that no brokers' reports are available; but the great

¹ For some required adjustment.

² Complete with Okrassa's Patent Direct Fire Heater. [Editor's Note.—We regret we find it impracticable to reproduce the diagram.]

³ This being the case in practically all other Mechanical Dryers.

advantage to be obtained from the use of a Dryer is the improvement in the colour and the out-turn.

There are two ways of considering the advantages which may accrue from the installation of a Coffee Dryer on an estate. The first is to look on it as a labour-saving device. This point of view has been dealt with above by one of us.

Another point of view is to consider the effect it may have on the actual improvement of the quality of the cured coffee. In all investigations which have been made into the question of Coffee curing and the quality of Mysore Coffee which is said, rightly or wrongly, to be gradually deteriorating, one point stands out prominently, and that is the importance of even drying. The late Mr. Graham Anderson, C.I.E., said, 'unevenly dried parchment is one of the greatest misfortunes, as a uniform condition can never be obtained after bulking has been carried out, and consequently, before milling can take place, some of the coffee will be greatly overdried and a proportion of the lot will be crushed, or rendered pale, by the weight of the roller.'

E. W. R., writing on the subject of Coffee curing in the *Planters' Chronicle* (V., p. 605) gives the advice, 'dry as evenly as possible. By evenness is meant, get each bean as near the same state of dryness as possible. The great thing, in order to get the best results with an Edge Runner, is an even and thorough drying, and an unevenly dried coffee turns paler than any other during peeling. One has only to see a big consignment arrive on the coast, classified as dry at average weights of, say, 31 lbs.; if women were put on to pick over a certain portion one would find they could get bushels at 33 and 29 lbs. odd, though the average would still be 31 lbs. This is what Curers mean by uneven drying.'

It is almost impossible to get coffee really evenly dry in the sun under estate conditions, especially if there is a big crop. To do so the coffee must be spread very thinly and evenly on the drying tables and constantly turned over, and this implies not only a lot of labour, but a lot of space and much bigger drying tables than most estates possess.

When the coffee is dried by hot air in a machine, evenness of drying is much more likely to be obtained, since each bean is subjected to the same conditions as every other bean. To test whether this was really so a number of samples from the machine-dried coffee were examined. The plan adopted was to pick out at haphazard from each sample (Nos. 7 to 20) three lots, each consisting of 15 sound beans. These were separately ground to a powder and dried in a water oven at 100 C in the laboratory till they ceased to lose weight, and the loss in weight was then calculated in each case to percentage of moisture content. It was argued that if the samples were evenly dried all the lots picked out in this way would contain the same percentage of moisture as far as each individual sample from which they were chosen was concerned, while if unevenly dried the percentage of moisture contained in these lots would differ.

When the method was tried on a sample of sun-dried coffee, the following percentages of moisture were obtained for five different lots, each consisting of 10 beans chosen at haphazard from the same sample of coffee :—

1.	10·40%
2.	10·87%
3.	11·18%
4.	12·00%
5.	12·38%

These lots show a range of moisture of 1·98%, and emphasise the uneven drying complained of above.

The results obtained with the machine-dried coffee are very different, and are set out in the last two columns of Table I. Here it will be seen that the greatest range of moisture content between the beans in any one lot is only 0·16%. Thus evenness of drying has been obtained, and this should have an effect on the quality of the finally cured coffee which again should be reflected in its price.

TABLE I
Machine Dried Coffee

No. of Sample	Date January 1916	Weight of Wet bushel. lbs.	No. of days in the sun	No. of hours in the drier	Weight of dry bushel. lbs.	Percent-age of moisture in the samples	Range of moisture variation
7	1	42	4	19	32½	6·86 6·98 7·01	0·15
8	2	42	4	21	31½	6·98 7·08 7·08	0·10
9	3	40½	4	15	31½	7·06 7·05 7·07	0·02
10	4	46½	3	23	32½	7·11 7·23 7·17	0·12
11	5	46½	3	23	32½	6·93 6·96 7·02	0·09
12	6	42½	3	19½	32	7·58 7·55 7·60	0·02
13	7	40	3	15	32½	6·76 6·86 6·84	0·10
14	8	40	3	14½	32½	6·69 6·95 6·89	0·07
15	9	41	3	15½	34½	7·23 7·38 7·29	0·15
16	10	44	3	16½	33½	7·42 7·39 7·34	0·08
17	11	42	3	22	33	7·37 7·49 7·49	0·12
18	12	42	3	22	33	6·89 6·83 6·84	0·06
19	13	44	2	21	33	6·55 6·48 6·51	0·07
20	14	45	2	17½	29½	5·84 5·68 5·81	0·16

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Sept. 24, 1931	January 1 to Sept. 24, 1931	January 1 to Sept. 24, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursdays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, 1931, respectively.)			s. d.	N. India	s. d. 1 3·66	s. d. 0 11·61	s. d. 1 2·55
(a) Anamallars—				S. India	a 0 9·27	b 0 10·93	c 1 2·58
Mukottu Mudi	90	1 7½ (1)		Ceylon ..	1 4·74	1 2·87	1 6·40
Thay Mudi	174	1 2½ (1)		Java ..	0 8·14	0 7·36	0 10·02
Kallyar-B.	70	1 2½ (1)		Sumatra.	0 7·32	0 7·66	0 11·13
Mukottu Mudi	186	1 2½ (24)		Nyassa-land.	0 5·85	0 6·89	0 9·29
Thoni Mudi	174	1 2 (1)		Total..	d 1 2·40	e 0 11·98	f 1 3·10
Peria Karamalai	331	1 0½ (24)					
Stanmore	246	0 11½ (1)					
(b) Central Travancore.							
Arnakal	90	1 2½ (1)					
Carady Goody	90	1 1½ (1)					
Twyford and Ashley Estates—							
Vembanaad	126	1 0½ (1)					
Arnakal	96	1 0½ (24)					
Mount	54	1 0½ (1)					
(c) Kanan Devans—							
Sevenmallay	107	1 3½ (1)					
Yellapatty	187	1 2½ (1)					
Gundumallay	129	1 2½ (24)					
Thenmallay	118	1 1½ (1)					
Vagavurrai	133	1 1½ (1)					
Chokanad	114	1 1½ (1)					
Vagavurrai	151	1 0½ (24)					
Chundavurrai	140	1 0½ (1)					
Talliar	130	1 0½ (1)					
Periavurrai	431	1 0 (1)					
Chundavurrai	52	1 0 (24)					
(d) Mundakayam—							
Orkaden	126	0 11½ (1)					
(e) Nilgiris—							
Nonsuch	44	1 9 (24)					
Prospect	266	1 8½ (1)					
"	204	1 7 (24)					
Pykara Falls	41	1 4½ (24)					
Ibex Lodge	54	1 3½ (24)					
Glendale	59	1 3½ (24)					
Brooklands	158	1 2½ (1)					
Curzon	64	1 2½ (1)					
Katary	130	1 0½ (1)					
Woodlands	162	1 0 (24)					
(f) Wynnaad—							
Chundale	42	1 3½ (1)					

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 10,063	b 223,855	c 256,489
d 90,857	e 3,122,716	f 3,030,665
g 8,546	h 232,401	i 263,452
j 101,086	k 3,223,802	l 3,111,434

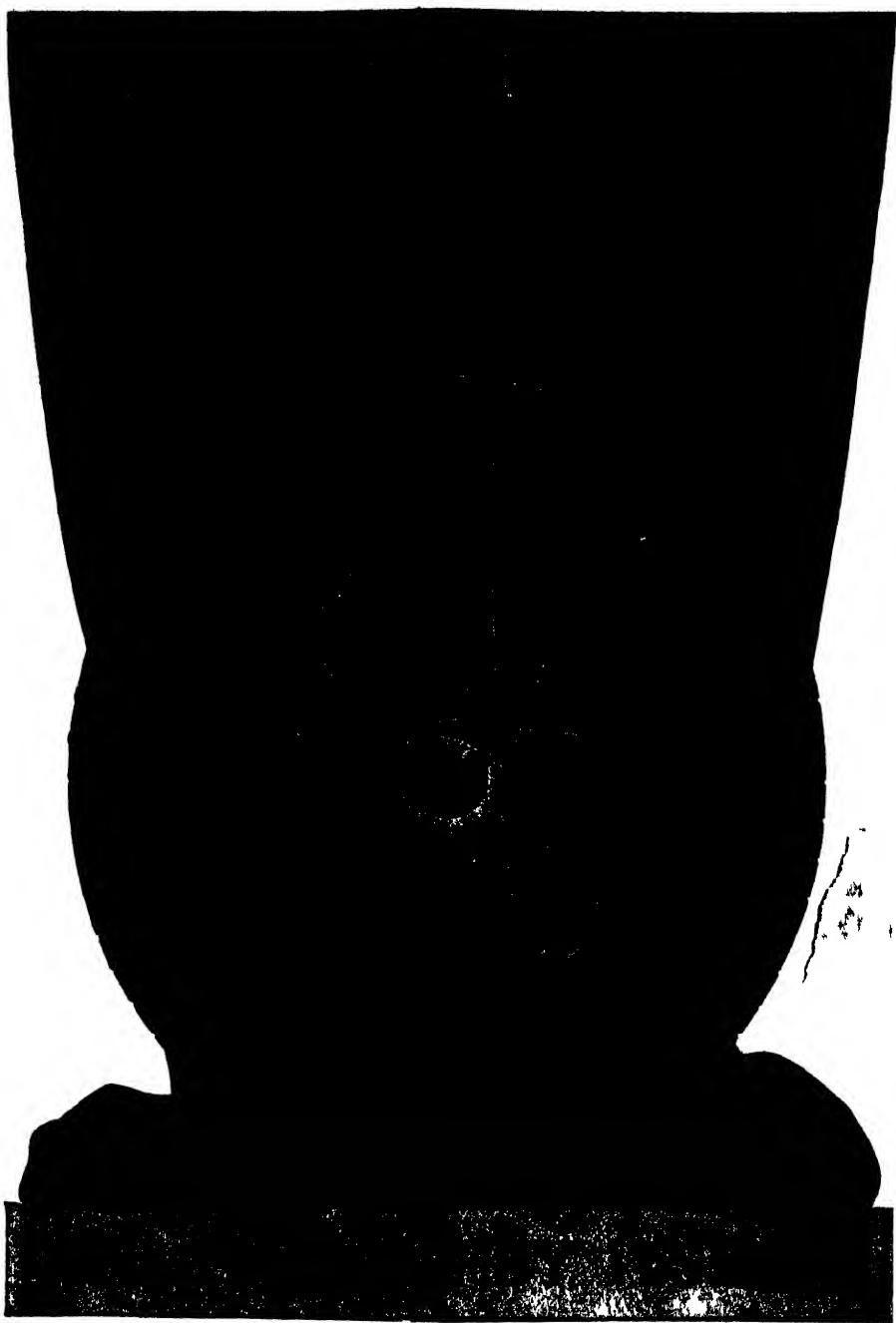
(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, October 20, 1931, was $\frac{5}{16}$ d

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 17, 1931, were 78,704 tons, a decrease of 31 tons on October 10, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 17, 1931, were 55,276 tons, a decrease of 242 tons on October 10, 1931, inventory.

* Where invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.





Government House,
Madras, 26th January 1931.

His Excellency
Sir George Stanley
is hereby pleased to appoint

The Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd
to be Tyre Makers
in ordinary to His Excellency with
The Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd are
hereby authorized to style themselves
Tyre Makers
in ordinary to His Excellency the Governor
of Madras accordingly
By command of His Excellency the Governor

G. A. Knair - Captain
Military Secretary to H E the Governor

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, October 22, 1931

The following report on the Madras Market is made available to us through the courtesy of Messrs. Huson, Tod & Co.:—

Planting.—Good class shares have been in demand and transactions can be reported in Vellamalais at Rs. 11½ and Cochin Rubbers at Rs. 6. Peermades and Periakaramalais are also in demand but sellers are scarce.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			↑ or — on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	0	—1
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	0	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	0	...
4. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	1	...
5. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0	...
6. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0	...
7. Kani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	...
8. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	0	...
9. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	— 1/3d.

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	1	1½
Cochins Rs. 15	...	6
Devasholas Rs. 9	5	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	15	17½
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	Noml.
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	2
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	...	15
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	...	27
” (Rs. 15) Non-participating	...	19
Perisholas Rs. 10	...	1
Periyars Rs. 10	...	1½
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	3	4
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	...	75
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	11	12

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity offered on 13th October, 1931 amounts to 1,624,566 lbs. Quality showed a further decline more particularly in the case of Uva teas. There was a fair demand but prices were lower except for low black leaf B. O. P's and good O. P's which were strong. **NUWERA ELIYA AND MATURATA.**—Quality was inferior and the selection rather limited. All grades were in fair request but at a lower range of prices. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality showed a further falling off. Except for O. P's which were a good market, demand for these descriptions was rather quieter than of late, resulting in a drop in quotations. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Quality was irregular. Brokens and Pekoes sold at lower rates, but O. P's were a strong market at generally firmer rates. **Low**

GROWN. Demand for Black Leaf B. O. P's was good and these teas were rather dearer, otherwise an easier market was seen for all other descriptions. FANNINGS & DUSTS. The better class showed a further decline in rates, while low grown sorts were barely steady.

South Indian Teas in Auction of October 6, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates	Total lbs.	Average
Kanniamallay ...	11,196	84
Sothuparai ...	14,844	83
Madupatty ...	9,309	68
Nettimed ...	10,840	54

RUBBER.—About 123 tons were offered at the Auction held on 8th October, 1931. There was a good demand and a general advance in prices. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet opened at 13½ cents and soon firmed to 13½ cents closing steady showing an improvement of 1½ cents on last week's prices. Fair & off quality sheet were in good demand and showed an improvement of one cent & 1½ cents respectively while inferior quality sheet which did not meet with the same strong enquiry was ½ of a cent better than previously. Contract Crepe was well supported throughout at -/13½ cents showing a rise of ½ of a cent on last auction rates. Off Crepe was one cent dearer and Mottled sorts about ½ of a cent dearer. Good Scrap Crepes were well competed for, No. 1 being ¼th cent up, and No. 2 about ¼ cent up. Black and Inferior sorts were fully steady. There was a very poor market for Scrap which was scarcely represented in the Auction and No. 1 sorts may be quoted at about -/06½ cents.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

October 4, 1931 to October 17, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ...	1·09	0·68	1·77
2. Kalthuritty.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	25. Kotagiri ..	0·81	0·44	1·25
3. Kallar Bdge.	0·92	2·29	3·21	26. Ootacamund	0·21	0·69	0·90
4. Koney ...	0·75	0·44	1·19	27. Yercaud ..	0·19	0·07	0·26
5. Pattanapura.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	28. Mango Range	6·88	N.R.	N.R.
6. Kumbazha...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	29. Devala ..	3·06	N.R.	N.R.
6a Peravanthan.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola.	1·65	0·06	1·71
6b Aneikolam...	1·07	0·36	1·43	31. CALICUT ..	4·24	0·33	4·57
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ...	2·32	0·40	2·72
8. Twyford ...	3·92	2·37	6·29	33. Vayitri ...	2·90	1·13	4·03
9. V'periyar ...	0·48	0·15	0·63	34. Manantoddi	0·45	0·41	0·86
10. Kalaar ...	1·45	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ...	0·79	0·25	1·04
11. Chittuvurrai ...	...	0·27	0·27	36. Sidapur ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. Bodr'KANUR ...	...	N.R.	N.R.	37. Ghatted Hulia	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	1·36	1·54	2·90	38. Pollibetta ..	1·71	0·61	2·32
14. Mooply ...	1·98	0·63	2·61	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	0·47	0·72	1·19	40. Saklaspur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	2·47	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamanie ...	5·25	1·50	6·75
17. POLLACHIE ...	...	...	...	42. Balehonnur..	0·59	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy...	N.R.	N.R.	N.K.	43. Merthisubgney.	1·29	0·20	1·49
19. Karapara ...	1·45	N.R.	N.R.	44. Kalagur ...	3·26	0·61	3·87
20. Pullengode..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	45. Durgadbettta.	0·94	0·27	1·21
21. Nilambur ...	2·57	1·12	3·69	46. MANGALORE	2·43	0·28	2·71
22. Naduvattam,	0·43	N.R.	N.R.	47. MADRAS ...	0·90	N.R.	N.R.
23. Nilgiri Peak	0·50	N.R.	N.R.				

N. R. No Return received.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 23]

November 7, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

SO much has happened or, rather let us say, has started to happen since our last issue appeared that even at the risk of publishing information which is now stale news, we must allude to the epoch-making events of the recent General Election at home.
The New National Government Not only was there a record poll but the National Government of Great Britain gained an electoral victory unprecedented in its completeness.

In obtaining what is probably the largest majority in the history of the House of Commons, the Government has acquired an immense responsibility but they have justified their decision to appeal to the country and the appropriateness of their title, is now apparent to all.

Already there have been encouraging signs of a revival in trade since the suspension of the Gold standard, and as the result of the solid support given to the National Government, the determination of the politicians to save the financial position of the country, will everywhere receive backing and confidence will steadily be restored. A noticeable improvement in trade is evident and not confined to any one section but so far as South Indian Planting interests are concerned, shareholders in tea planting concerns have noted with satisfaction the recent general appreciation of their holdings, and taken heart.

The general position of tea is gradually improving. Consumption of tea in India is increasing, purchases to date being approximately twice the amount of the corresponding date last year and the campaign which has been inaugurated to increase the consumption of Empire tea at home, should have the rosiest prospects. In India, conditions are not so cheerful

and the trend of future trade depends upon the deliberations and results of the Round Table Conference in England, the progress of which has been seriously affected by the necessity of the General Election, hastened by the acute financial crisis in Great Britain.

AN important motion was passed in the Madras Legislative Council on November 2nd when the Council accepted the proposal for a Committee to study the whole question of the taxation of Motor vehicles in the Presidency and by so doing, they have done what they can to assist the Government to get out of the mess into which their combined schedule of Motor taxes and the imposts levied by District Boards and Municipalities have led them. Mr. F. E. James mentioned, in the course of the debate, the case of lorries on estates where there was no public road and pointed out that the only time these lorries used the public road was when they were being delivered by the dealer to the estate. Nevertheless these lorries were asked to pay exactly the same amount as a lorry using the public road. Mr. James who has been chiefly instrumental in getting this Committee appointed, deserves the thanks of the Planting Community for his strenuous efforts on their behalf, indeed all motorists in the Presidency who have been unfairly treated, should be grateful to him for the mass of data he has collected and for his able exposition of the case before the Council, with the result that the Committee appointed to study the question have been instructed to submit their report before the end of the present financial year.

THE Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I. met at the Head Office in Madras on Wednesday and Thursday, the 28th and 29th October, respectively. Owing to the lengthy Agenda before the Meeting, two days were necessary to carry the discussions through and in due course, the proceedings will be circulated to all Committee Members of the District Associations.

*U.P.A.S.I.
Executive
Committee
Meeting*

—:o:—

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES COFFEE-GRAFTING COURSE

NOTIFICATION No. Roc. 887-Sc. 116 OF '31-32

Dated October 24, 1931

A short course on grafting as applicable to Coffee Estates will be held on the Coffee Experimental Station, Balehonnur, from November 22, 1931, to the end of the month.

Estate owners, both in and outside Mysore State, who desire to train themselves or their Maistries, are requested to communicate with the Manager, Coffee Experimental Station, Balehonnur P.O., as soon as possible.

Lodging will be provided on the Farm but they have to make their own arrangements for boarding.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
AGRICULTURE IN MYSORE,
BANGALORE.

LESLIE C. COLEMAN,
Director of Agriculture.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the Period 1st April to 30th September, 1931

INCOME	Amount	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	EXPENDITURE	Amount	RS. A. P.
To Subscriptions received from.—						
Anamalais	815	0	Case No. 1. Widow	450	0	0
Central Travancore	205	0	" 2. Do.	300	0	0
Kanan Devans	86	6	" 3. Child	300	0	0
Mundakayam	7	0	" 4. Education of 1 boy	859	8	0
Mysore	115	0	" and 2 girls	405	10	6
Nelliampathy	30	0	" 5. Invalid Planter			
Nilgiri-Wynad	380	0	" 6. Passage for desti-			
Shevaroys	40	0	tute Planter, wife	1,573	13	9
South Travancore	30	0	and children	270	1	1
West Coast	155	0	" 7. Invalid Planter			
Wynad	435	0	" 8. School fee of	78	0	0
Firms	25	0	" 1 child	102	0	0
Miscellaneous donations	10	0	" 9. Do. 2 children.			
U.P.A.S.I.	10	0	" 10. Passage for invalid			
			planter and home			
			allowance	1,581	5	0
To Interest received	...	...		5,920	6	4
To Balance being excess of Expen-						
diture over Income	...					
Total	...	5,936	0	4	5,936	0

MADRAS,
November 3, 1931.

C. H. BROCK,
Secretary.

COFFEE EXPERIMENT STATION, BALEHONNUR

Roc. 1055-Sc. 141 OF '31-32

A Field Day will be held on the Coffee Experiment Station on the 27th November, and His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore has graciously consented to open the Laboratories of the Station on the afternoon of that date. All planters in South India interested in coffee cultivation are cordially invited to attend. Arrangements for accommodation for the nights of the 26th and 27th will be made for those who send their names to the Manager, Coffee Station, Balehonnur.

BANGALORE,
November 4, 1931.

LESLIE C. COLEMAN,
Director of Agriculture, Mysore State.

LEAVE IN INDIA

In this period of financial crisis our eagerly anticipated 'Leave' looms before us—no longer the beacon of our hopes, but rather as a cloud on the horizon.

From every source we learn that if conditions are depressing and difficult out here, at 'Home' the situation is yet more extreme. And those of us who are laying down the burden of work and anxiously looking forward—not only to change of climate—but the pleasures and amusements which have been so long denied us, are beginning to realize that not only is our Home Country burdened and anxious with her own trials, but that once there—it will be difficult for us to find companions with either the leisure or means for amusement.

Let us then—in our own interests—view this question of pending leave from another angle.

Some years ago during the 'Great War', many of us were unable to take our usual journeys across the seas, owing to the almost prohibitive restrictions and dangers attendant upon such a course. And this being the case discovered that holidays could be passed very happily and not expensively within this country.

This does not refer to those who are fortunately little affected by the world depression, but to the many Europeans, some with large families and slender means,—to them I would offer the practical advice of tried experiment.

There are many lovely spots in India suitable for holiday resorts but South India being better known is foremost in my vision.

For those whose misfortune it is to live on the 'Plains' a change to some higher elevation would seem beneficial. But if already weary of the aimless round of social gaiety one would not advise the larger 'hill-stations' but rather some quiet spot where a man who was fond of big game shooting could enjoy this at a minimum cost. Where there were children the change and freedom offered by a country life could hardly fail to please.

In many planting districts—especially at this time—Companies and private owners have unoccupied bungalows they would gladly rent at almost nominal rates.

Among the names of the lesser and yet pleasing hill-stations of South India, there are those delightful ranges of hills. The Anamallais—the High Range—the Pulnies. Or Coorg—the 'Switzerland of India' with its attractive little capital—Mercara, likened by some to Mussoorie—with its lovely viewpoints, open 'downs' and a golf course in the vicinity—equalled by few in India.

To those whose lives are spent upon the hills, there is another suggestion—that of spending the allotted months in some seaside station, varying in size and character to suit their needs.

Waltair and Cannanore are the most attractive from a social point of view and offer the usual pleasures and amusements. But Tellicherry, Calicut and even Mahé have attractions of their own—the last offering a picturesque touch of the primitive life in the East—her cocoanut 'topes' guarded by the shadow of the 'Fleur-de-Lys'—and it is strange to hear in the little town the 'patois' of another race.

I hope my readers will accept these suggestions—not merely in the light of a 'Baedeker'—but as a sincere attempt to solve the problem of the moment 'Where to spend our leave!'

'A PLANTER'S WIFE'

DISTRICT NOTES

MUNDAKAYAM

Minutes of a General Meeting of Rubber Interests held in the Mundakayam Club on Saturday, September 19, 1931, at 4 p.m.

Present :

Messrs. H. J. Walmsley, H. R. Carson Parker, H. B. Macpherson, N. B. Hartley, B. St. Maur Hill, C. L. McLean, G. A. Brooke, S. N. Ure, A. D. Vincent, O. J. Egan Wyer, I. N. James, J. S. Fray, B. S. I. Champion, R. Seligman, R. A. McKay.

Notice calling the Meeting.—Mr. Carson Parker having been asked to take the Chair, the Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting, and the Chairman enquired if the Meeting would confirm the Minutes of the last General Meeting held in Cochin.

Confirmation of Minutes.—Proposed by Mr. St. Maur Hill, and seconded by Mr. S. N. Ure 'that the Minutes be passed'.

Carricd.

Termination of Scientific Officer's Agreement.—Before proceeding with the Agenda, the Chairman explained that the Meeting had been called under Rule V of the R.A.C. Rules; and then informed those present, that owing to the present depression, the U.P.A.S.I. had been reluctantly compelled to dispense with Mr. Taylor's services for reasons of economy.

The Executive Member for Rubber, Mr. Walmsley, informed the Meeting that Mr. Taylor's services were being terminated at the end of November under clause 10 of his Agreement and explained what that entailed in the way of compensation.

R.A.C. Recommendations regarding Rubber Experimental Station.—Referring to the Committee Meeting held that morning, the Chairman reported what recommendations had been decided on regarding the future supervision of the Station, policy to be followed, etc., and Mr. St. Maur Hill explained the financial position which had enabled a Reduced Draft Budget totalling Rs. 12,308 being drawn up for 1932-33.

Draft Budget for 1932-33.—The draft Budget was read by the Secretary and the Meeting signified their general approval of it, agreeing with Mr. Ure that the details might safely be left to the Advisory Committee to decide on, as they had the requisite knowledge of the whole position.

Mr. Walmesley pointed out the dangers of closing down the Station. The Station was being kept running as a Scientific Experimental Station, and though on a very reduced budget, was still in a position to carry on Scientific work.

R.A.C. Rules.—With reference to the R.A.C. Rules, the Chairman explained the reasons which had actuated the Committee to make alterations and additions during the past year, and the Secretary having read out the new Rules, comment was called for on the alterations.

There was a good deal of discussion on all the changes, particularly that relating to the Annual General Meeting of Rubber Interests.

It was proposed by Mr. Walmesley, and seconded by Mr. Ure that the New Rule regarding voting, be approved of.

Carried.

It was proposed from the Chair that the New Rules, as read out by the Secretary, should receive the approval of the Meeting.

Carried.

The New Rules, copies of which were being sent to the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I., and the Secretary, R.G.A., London, for confirmation by these bodies, read as follows :—

RULES FOR THE RUBBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Name.—

The Committee shall be known as the U.P.A.S.I. Rubber Advisory Committee and South Indian Branch of the R.G.A.

2. Objects.—

The objects of this Committee are, to advise the U.P.A.S.I. on—

1. all matters concerning the Rubber Scientific Station,
2. all matters relative to South Indian Rubber Planting generally, and
3. to act as Local Correspondent of the R.G.A., London.

3. Powers.—

The Committee shall exercise such powers as the Council of the R.G.A., London, and/or the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I. shall delegate to it from time to time, but shall not be competent to incur on behalf of the R.G.A., or of the U.P.A.S.I., any liability which previously has not received the sanction and approval of the body concerned.

4. Constitution.—

1. The Committee for the time being shall consist of—

one Member from the West Coast P.A.,
one Member from the South Travancore P.A.,
one Member from the Mundakayam P.A., and
the Member for Rubber on the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I.

2. The Committee shall appoint a Chairman annually, from among its own members ; and a Secretary, who shall be resident in the Mundakayam District, and *ex-officio* member of the Committee.

5. Voting.—

1. Each of the four Representative Members constituting the Committee shall be entitled to one vote at all Meetings of the Committee. In the event of a tie in voting, the Chairman, or in his absence, any Acting Chairman who may be selected by the Meeting, shall be entitled to a casting vote.

2. In matters arising from correspondence, where there is found to be a difference of opinion, the Chairman shall call for a clear vote. The question shall be decided on the vote of two out of the three districts represented.

6. Meetings.—

1. The R.A.C. shall call a General Meeting of Rubber Interests, at the request of the Representatives of Rubber Interests in South India, to be held at such time and place as the latter may decide. The R.A.C. Secretary shall advise P.A.'s and the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. regarding the holding of this Meeting, and shall circulate Notices to all Subscribers on the R.G.A. List.

2. The Committee shall meet, if possible, twice a year or more often if necessary, and shall inspect the Experimental Station when the Meetings are held in Mundakayam.

3. The Secretary and the Mundakayam Representative shall visit the Experimental Station twice a year.

4. Meetings of the Committee shall be held at such time and place as may be determined by it, at least seven days' notice being required for each meeting.

5. Meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the Secretary on the written request of the Chairman or any two members. Notice of such Meeting shall state the purpose for which it is being called.

6. Provided two different Rubber Districts are represented, a quorum shall have been formed, and the business of the Meeting may be proceeded with unless the members present decide to adjourn to some other time and place, which it shall be within their power to decide.

7. Rules.—

1. The Committee shall have power to amend these Rules at any time, such amendment to be submitted to the P.A.'s and the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I. for examination.

2. Alterations made in these Rules by the Committee under the above Rule, shall be valid until confirmed.

There being no other business brought forward, the Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Executive Member and the Mundakayam Club for the use of their premises for the two meetings.

H. R. CARSON PARKER,
Chairman.

R. A. MCKAY,
Secretary.

**Summary of Minutes of a Meeting of the Rubber Advisory Committee held in the
Mundakayam Club on Saturday the 19th September 1931, at 9 a.m.
and at the Rubber Experimental Station on Sunday
the 20th September at 9 a.m.**

Present :

Mr. H. R. Carson Parker	... <i>Chairman, R.A.C., and Representative, S.T. P.A.</i>
„ H. J. Walmesley	... <i>Executive Member for Rubber on U.P.A.S.I., Executive.</i>
„ H. B. Macpherson	... <i>Representative, M.P.A.</i>
„ B. St. Maur Hill	... <i>W.C.P.A.</i>
„ R. A. McKay	... <i>Secretary, R.A.C.</i>

Notice calling the Meeting.—The Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting, and then referred to the Agenda, which was as undernoted.

AGENDA.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of last Committee Meeting.
2. Station.
3. Station Accounts.
4. Additional 30 acres of Land.
5. Station Cart Road.
6. R.G.A. Circulars.
7. R.A.C. Rules.
8. General Meeting of Rubber Interests.
9. Correspondence and any other competent Business.

Scientific Officer.—Mr. Walmesley, the Executive Committee Member, informed the Meeting of the position regarding the termination of the Scientific Officer's Agreement. After discussion, the following recommendation was passed unanimously:—

'That Mr. Taylor's services be terminated as from the 30th November, 1931, and that the compensations due to him under Clause 10 of his agreement be adhered to.'

The Committee wished to place on record their appreciation of Mr. Taylor's services, and their thanks for the very good work he had done during his short time at the Station, and much regretted that funds did not permit of his being retained.

Future Supervision of Station.—The future Supervision of the Station, together with a Reduced Draft Budget for 1932-33, was fully discussed, and it was decided that the Station could be kept running next Season on the surplus from the current year and the annual grants. The total available funds were estimated at Rs. 14,500, while the estimated expenditure, with a Scientific Officer at Rs. 350 per month, amounted to Rs. 12,308.

The Committee then recommended unanimously 'that the cess for the current year should be called up to the total amount of 3 annas per acre only, as unanimously agreed to at the General Meeting held at Cochin on the 7th February.'

The Secretary was instructed to advise the U.P.A.S.I. accordingly.

Station Accounts.—These were fully discussed by the Committee.

Additional 30 acres of Land.—The grant of this land had been sanctioned by the Travancore Government, and the matter was now in the hands of the Forestry Department.

The Secretary and the M.P.A. Representative were asked to look over the land selected, in company with Mr. Taylor.

Station Cart Road.—The subject of Upkeep on the Cart Road, with relative correspondence was dealt with, and the Secretary advised of the Committee's wishes.

R.G.A. Circulars.—The question of the distribution of R.G.A. Circulars to subscribers in Southern India was fully considered, and the Secretary instructed to communicate with the R.G.A., London, and the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. regarding the matter.

R.A.C. Rules.—These were the subject of discussion, and it was considered advisable to make some alterations subject to the approval of the General Meeting to be held that afternoon, and the R.G.A., and the U.P.A.S.I. A Draft Copy of the Rules including the alterations was then drawn up.

Correspondence and other Business—Publication of Minutes.—On the suggestion of the Chairman, it was decided that a summary of the Minutes of all Committee meetings and General meetings be published in the *PLANTERS'*

CHRONICLE, and that full copies of the Minutes be sent to the Honorary Secretaries of the Rubber P.A.'s—marked 'not for publication.'

General Meeting of Rubber Interests.—The Committee discussed the Meeting called for the afternoon, and prepared their Report.

Remission of Tax on Rubber Lands.—Mr. Walmesley brought up the question of the Remission of Land Tax on Rubber Lands, and the Committee after discussion were of the opinion that the Rubber Interests in Cochin and British India would prefer the Remission of half the Land Tax as had been made in Travancore, to a moratorium, as the latter would entail the accumulation of liability for the whole amount of the tax.

The Chairman said he wished to thank Mr. Walmesley on behalf of the Committee, and those he represented, for the great assistance he had always given them, and the splendid work he had carried out in his capacity as Executive Member for Rubber. In this the Committee heartily concurred.

Mr. St. Maur Hill said he wished to remark on the highly efficient work of the Secretary, and the Chairman proposed that it should be recorded in the minutes how much his work had assisted the Committee. This being approved, was recorded.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting was adjourned.

Inspection of Station on the 20th September.—The Committee were met at the Station on Sunday morning at 9 A.M. by Mr. Taylor who conducted them on a thorough inspection of the grounds. The various experiments on hand were explained by Mr. Taylor, the Committee being particularly interested in Budding Experiments at various heights on trees of different ages and thanked Mr. Taylor for his careful explanation of all current work.

At a consultation in the bungalow, Mr. Taylor was asked to scrutinise the Draft Budget for 1932-33, and to give the Committee the benefit of his advice on each item in the reduced Estimate.

He offered to leave a statement for the benefit of the Supervising Officer who should take over from him giving details of the experiments he considered it of importance to carry on with.

When thanking Mr. Taylor for his help, the Chairman again expressed his regret that it was not possible to retain his services at the station.

There being no further business brought forward the Meeting was declared closed.

H. R. CARSON PARKER,
Chairman.

R. A. MCKAY,
Honorary Secretary.

NILGIRI-WYNAAD

Proceedings of an extraordinary General Meeting of the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association held at the George Memorial Hall on 15th October, 1931, at 11 a.m.

Present :

Messrs. R. M. Nicolls (*Chairman*), G. W. Fulcher, C. O. Commin, J. Upton Body, E. W. Koechlin, W. L. Roberts, B. Henney, N. L. S. Wright, J. E. Bisset, Stuart S. Light, N. Johnston, W. Byron Page, G. F. Scovell, J. E. Hancock and A. N. Scott Hart (*Honorary Secretary*).

Visitor :

G. E. Elliott.

Proceedings.—Notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Read letters from Messrs. C. K. Pittock and R. W. Levett regretting their inability to be present at the meeting.

Bangalore Meeting.—Mr. R. M. Nicolls read the delegates' report on the business of the Annual General Meeting.

Coffee Drying.—This was discussed and as no coffee interests were present at the meeting it was decided to allow the matter to stand over. Those members present were not in favour of a sum of Rs. 7,500 being allotted from the U. P. A. S. I. funds for this work.

Tea Cess Committee.—Several members spoke and the consensus of opinion was that the packing of tea in 20 lbs. was a waste of money and that despatching in larger amounts would be more economical. The scheme as it stood appeared to be difficult to work and something simpler should be devised.

Members were also against selling tea at cost price. Proposed by Mr. Fulcher and seconded by Mr. J. E. Hancock :—

'The scheme as set out by the U. P. A. S. I. is too difficult to work'.

Carried unanimously.

S. I. P. B. F.—A list was passed round the room, asking those members who had not subscribed, to do so.

Estate Staff Association.—The members while viewing with sympathy wished to know more about the working of the Association.

Bank Account.—Proposed from the Chair :—

'That our funds be invested with the National Bank of India'.

Carried unanimously.

Labour District Rules.—It was unanimously decided that the matter of the District Labour Rules be gone into immediately, and Mr. G. W. Fulcher proposed and Mr. J. E. Bisset seconded :—

'That our unofficial labour rules for which we have been working on for some years be brought in force as amended.'

Carried unanimously.

Roads.—The District Board members received instructions to bring certain matters concerning our roads up at the next meeting of the Board.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

A. N. SCOTT HART,
Honorary Secretary.

R. M. NICOLLS,
Chairman.

ANAMALLAIS

Minutes of an extraordinary General Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held at the Anamallai Club on Monday, October 19, 1931, at 2-30 p.m.

Present:

Messrs. E. Johnson (*Chairman*), A. W. F. Mills, T. Davenport, G. A. LeMesurier, R. Walker, C. Wynell Mayow, R. N. Champion Jones, H. Gerry, F. L. Schwind, A. C. Cotton, J. H. Ireland Jones, J. Hatton Robinson, J. L. H. Williams, J. E. Sampson, H. S. Collett, C. E. Dennys, H. de V. Gosselin, R. C. Bulteel, R. V. Hankin, G. Stevens, A. V. Danagher, J. P. M. Hewett, N. B. S. Hewett, F. J. B. Diaper, G. R. Simpson, W. H. Martin, O. M. Hetherington, R. Bentley and C. F. Clark (*Honorary Secretary*).

Notice calling the meeting was taken as read.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The following minutes which had been circulated to all members were confirmed *nem con* :—

(a) Extraordinary General Meeting held on July 21, 1931.

(b) General Committee Meeting held on September 4, 1931.

With regard to minute (b) Mr. Danagher raised the question of No. 2 Committee's recommendations. It was decided to postpone discussion on the matter until a later date.

Estates Staffs' Association of South India.—Read letter from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., dated September 10, 1931. Mr. Mills explained the position of this Association and proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. LeMesurier and carried *nem con* :—

'That so long as the Estates Staffs' Association of South India is run on its present lines, the Anamallai Planters' Association recognize the organization and recommends that this is also done by the United Planters' Association of Southern India.'

CORRESPONDENCE

Messrs. The Anamallais Ropeway Company Limited bill for Rs. 48-12-0 on account of transport of A.P.A. goods. Meeting sanctioned payment of this bill.

Minor Forest Produce.—Mr. Martin spoke on his letter, dated 19th ultimo, and asked for co-operation of Managers in the collection of this produce. Honorary Secretary was instructed to write Managers on the subject.

Coffee Scientific Department.—Read letter from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., dated October 17, 1931. Honorary Secretary was directed to refer the U.P.A.S.I. to his letter, dated September 24, 1931.

Proposed Pollachi Munsiff's Court.—Read letter from Secretary, Pollachi Bar Association, dated October 17. Meeting decided to support the resolution passed by the Pollachi Bar Association.

Township.—Read letter from Collector, Coimbatore District, dated October 13, 1931, and addressed to Honorary Secretary, Township Committee, regarding the objection by Naduar Estate to plot No. 56 being included in township land. Meeting referred the matter to Township Committee.

Abolition of Advances.—The Chairman initiated an informal discussion on this subject, and the following gentlemen spoke for and against the abolition of advances, most speakers making it clear that they were expressing their personal opinions only :—

Mr. Gosselin, Mr. Mills, Mr. Schwind, Mr. LeMesurier, Mr. Devanport, Mr. Hatton Robinson, Mr. Ireland Jones, Mr. Danagher, Mr. Hankin, Mr. Dennys, Mr. Cotton, Mrs. Martin, Mr. Sampson, Mr. Bulteel and Mr. Diaper.

Honorary Secretary was instructed to have the speakers' speeches printed and circulated to all members and also to District Associations.

(Sd.) C. F. CLARK,
Honorary Secretary.

(Sd.) ERIC JOHNSON,
Chairman.

WYNAAD

**Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Wynnaad Planters' Association
held at Meppadi Club on Wednesday, 21st October, 1931**

Present :

Messrs. R. N. W. Jodrell (*Chairman*), G. Bayzand, B. M. Behr, E. A. Cowdrey, C. E. A. Ewart, E. E. Eyre, F. H. Farmer, J. A. Gwynne, A. M. Haigh, R. W. M. Hay, W. A. Holmes, E. Howe, W. A. L. Marr, P. A. Naylor, E. R. Peachey, F. Price, E. Rattray, W. Thyne, R. Young and I. W. Finlayson (*Hon. Secretary*).

The notice calling the meeting was read

(1) The minutes of the General Meeting held on 12th August 1931 were taken as read and confirmed.

(2) *U.P.A.S.I. 38th Annual General Meeting, 1931—Report of the Delegates.*—Mr. R. N. W. Jodrell addressed the meeting as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,

We duly attended the 38th Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. held at Bangalore on August 17th, 18th and 19th last.

The meeting was remarkable for the efficient manner in which the important business was dispatched without unnecessary delay. And we think that the fact that the meeting finished within three days constitutes a record.

As the Book of Proceedings has been in your hands for some days, we feel that you do not expect a detailed report from us, but we will just touch on some of the more important points and those directly affecting this Association.

Roads.—We gave support to the Nilgiri-Wynnaad resolutions regarding the present burden of taxation now placed upon Motor Vehicles used for commercial and estate purposes under the Motor Vehicles Act and to the proposal that the Act be amended so as to allow for the registration and taxation of bullock-cart and all vehicles. Recently I have heard that Mr. James, who has collected a good deal of information on this subject, will introduce two Bills, which have been drafted to remove the hardships caused by the present Act, at the coming session of the Legislative Council.

Political Situation.—We gave effect to your wishes in regard to the wording of the Coorg resolution on this subject and succeeded in persuading the proposer to withdraw the same and to substitute the resolution recorded on page 39 of the Book of Proceedings.

Articles of Association.—In accordance with the views expressed by you, we opposed both the Anamallai Association's resolution and the Kanan Devan Association's amendment on this subject neither of which secured a majority.

Rules.—We had an opportunity of discussing your views on Rule 14 with the West Coast delegate who pointed out that as the subject was one that concerned the two Associations only the matter could be settled to the satisfaction of both parties by deputing two delegates of each to meet and come to some working arrangement; we therefore agreed, on your behalf, to Mr. Walmesley's suggestion. Your Committee have since elected

Messrs. Behr and Hay to meet the West Coast representatives and we feel confident that this question can be finally settled by them.

Labour Dept.—As you will see from the Book of Proceedings, an amendment was proposed from the Chair, and passed, to the effect that the Executive Committee devise some means whereby an Advisory Committee shall be set up for the purpose of considering and discussing the work of the Department and with the object of bringing subscribers into closer touch with the Director.

You will have an opportunity of expressing your opinion on the Nilgiri Association's resolution suggesting that some rule be framed to limit the amount of the advance recoverable through the Labour Department. We felt that some such step should be taken with the object of reducing advances. You are aware that from 31st March 1932, our local rules limit claims for defaulters to Rs. 20 per head.

Tea Scientific Department.—The Executive Committee's resolution on continuing the Department, which you instructed us to support, was passed.

You will shortly have to decide on the type of work to be undertaken by your officers at the station. Scientific research, which has been taking up a good deal of their time, is meeting with some opposition and a considerable number of subscribers desire that the Scientific Officers spend most of their time on disseminating the results of other, larger, Research stations and give greater attention to purely South Indian problems.

Tea Propaganda in S. India.—The Tea Cess Commissioner, Mr. Christy, made an interesting speech which we commend to the attention of all, both as regards tea propaganda and efforts being made to prevent the sale of inferior quality and imitation teas. This subject will come up under our Agenda for to-day when our Honorary Secretary will give you the position up to date with regard to the supply of tea for propaganda purposes.

You will notice that two important resolutions, one urging the authorities concerned to tighten up the provisions of the Food Adulteration Act, and another addressed to the Indian Tea Association urging that propaganda in India be not hampered for lack of sufficient funds, were passed unanimously.

General.—Remarks were made, during this meeting, on more than one occasion on the futility of binding delegates down to definite instructions. We personally were not embarrassed by such restrictions but we would like to place it on record that it is our considered opinion that a certain amount of discretion must be allowed to delegates to form opinions after discussions have been heard at the General Meeting.

If any member has any questions to ask on any point, we shall endeavour to answer him to the best of our ability.

We thank you, gentlemen, for having given us the honour of representing you at this meeting and now ask you to sanction our expenses.

On the proposal of Mr. Gwynne and seconded by Mr. Behr, the meeting accorded a vote of thanks to the delegates and passed their expenses for attending the meeting at Bangalore.

(3) *Supply of Tea for I.T.C.C. Propaganda in South India.*—The Hon. Secretary informed the meeting what had been done regarding the supply of the district's allotment of tea and stated that the two companies with

the largest interests in the district had agreed to supply the allotment between them.

(4) *Bill for Establishment of crop markets.*—After hearing a statement of the objects of the proposed Bill, the meeting discussed it and was finally of the opinion that the subject was more one for the consideration of Agents and Proprietors who would no doubt express their views through the Chambers of Commerce to whom the matter had also been referred.

(5) *Estates Staff Association of South India.*—The Chairman explained the objects of this organization and the reason for its inclusion in the Agenda. After a long discussion, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Bayzand and seconded by Mr. Howe :—

'That this Association is in favour of the recognition of the Estates Staff's Association of South India.'

The following amendment was proposed by Mr. Behr and seconded by Mr. Naylor :—

'That this Association views with sympathy the inauguration of the Estates Staff's Association of South India and hopes that it will meet with success.'

On a poll being taken, the amendment was found to be carried.

(6) *Whitley Commission Report.*—As this was a matter of very great interest to the Association, the Chairman suggested that the Committee go into it in detail and draw up a list of points affecting the Association, with their suggestions on the same, for submission to a general meeting later. The meeting adopted this suggestion.

(7) *Experiments in Artificial Drying of Coffee.*—The Chairman gave some information regarding this question and stated the present position. The meeting decided that if District Associations interested in Coffee were not unanimous on the subject, no further action need be taken.

(8) *South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund.*—The Chairman addressed the meeting and pointed out that, so far this year, the Fund had disbursed more than it had received. He appealed to all members who had not already done so, to send their subscriptions in as soon as possible.

(9) *Other Competent Business.—Tea Experimental Station.*—The present position was outlined by the Chairman who said it would soon be necessary for the Association to give its opinion on the type of work to be carried out in future at the Station. He asked the members to think over the matter carefully so as to be able to express their views when the subject came up again for definite decision.

District Rates.—Mr. F. H. Farmer spoke on the desirability of revising and bringing up to date of the list of rates paid for various works in the district. He suggested that the Hon. Secretary be asked to collect information regarding these and also the terms of employment of labour generally, with a view to securing uniformity throughout the district. The Hon. Secretary promised to collect the desired information and to place the subject on the Agenda of the next meeting.

Bank Commission on Cash Remittances.—Mr. G. Bayzand raised the question of banks charging commission on cash sent by post, over and above the charges for postage, registration and insurance. The Hon. Secretary said he would write to all estates in the Association and ascertain if the practice referred to was general or not.

Correspondence.—The Hon. Secretary gave the meeting a precis of the correspondence dealt with since the last meeting.

The meeting then terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair.

R. N. W. JODRELL,
Chairman.

I. W. FINLAYSON,
Hon. Secretary.

JIBBERWIRY

'Twas ufals and the spilfy corms
Did gire codesque to hypotote ;
All warsy were the doredodes,
And keyless to the cogent's quote.

' Beware the Jibberwire, my son !
The toils that crush, the terms that doom !
Beware the Moracoon and shun
The Jeppo and the Chonadum ! '

He took his inklot pen in hand :
Long time the ugcuk code he sought
He rested 'neath a rabica,
And lay awhile in thought.

And as in udnug mood he stood,
The Jibberwire in double-dutch,
Came morsing through the tapal far,
But did not ufal much.

One, two ! One, two ! And to and fro
The inklot pen went scriter-scrat !
He scrunched it up and sent reply,
' Ufals to you and all of that '.

' And hast thou solved the Jibberwire !
Come to my arms, my donny newk !
O cowcood day ! Callooh ! Callay ! '
He turned to Grecian Luke.

NOTE.—

Many of the portmanteau words are easily intelligible : for the benefit of those without looking-glass minds the more obscure words are translated as follows :—

UFALS, The season for receiving ' firm ' offers, usually of the heads-I-rise-tails-you-fall variety.

GIRE, To telegraph with guile.

HYPOTOTE, An Estate run on loaned funds.

WARSY, Indulging in war-like pursuits under an Adjutant. The ' a ' is pronounced as in ' farce '.

DONNY, Funny though learned.

NEWK, One who sings like a lark of new-boin babes.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRICES FOR SOUTH AND NORTH INDIA TEAS

We publish another letter below addressed to the Editor of the 'Madras Mail', referring to 'Fine Dust's' letter, reproduced in our issue of October 24, which will be of interest to our readers.

Another correspondent 'Profits' has written us a most interesting commentary on 'Fine Dust's' letter and both his views and those of 'Pekoe's' dealing with the subject from different standpoints, are very enlightening.

Prices for South Indian Teas

To The Editor, 'Madras Mail'

SIR,—I was interested in 'Fine Dust's' letter in your issue of October 14, and also in your leading article on South Indian tea prices.

I have been trying for a long time to get to the root of the matter, and am quite certain that, whatever the brokers may say to the contrary, Indian teas are very unpopular in Colombo, where they are looked upon as of foreign origin and treated as such. I have proved to my own satisfaction that they are not given a fair chance on the Colombo market, the main difficulty perhaps being that, owing to the prohibitive import duty on outside teas entering Ceylon, Indian tea sold there has to be dealt with in bonded warehouses. The facilities for dealing with tea in bonded warehouses are not up to the same standard as those of the purchasers' godowns, and consequently the teas suffer in price. So much for Colombo.

'SUDDEN PREJUDICE'

But your mention in your editorial of a prejudice against South Indian teas in London is a different matter, and not easy to swallow. Though I am new to South India, and all my planting experience was acquired in Ceylon, I believe I am right in stating that, normally, the average for South Indian teas is within 2d. or 3d. of the Ceylon average, and equal to or even better than that of the North. If that is so, why this sudden prejudice in 1931 only?

As far as this (Kotagiri) district is concerned, the whole matter can be explained by the abnormality of the climate. My rainfall to date for the year is 21.05 inches; and who can either expect tea to have any sap in it, or hope to manufacture quality teas, during ten months of virtual drought? The atmosphere is entirely devoid of humidity, withering lofts cannot be kept cool, even at a high altitude, and the tea bushes are lacking in vitality, there being no moisture in the ground nor any possibility of fork ing it.

In this connexion I should be interested to know if 'Fine Dust,' who replied to my letter in your issue of May 4, could now give me his rainfall figures to date for the year, as I am convinced they cannot be worse than mine.

I would also ask him, as an old resident, to give me his ideas regarding this year's North-East Monsoon, which I have always understood should have started at the end of last month, and of which there are as yet no signs whatever.

KOTAGIRI, October 15.

PEKOE.

'The Difference'

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

The articles in the press and Fine Dusts letter in your issue of October 24 make interesting reading. May I suggest that holding a pistol to the head of the consumer is unlikely to make him drink South Indian tea.

The undercurrent of opinion that our prices are affected by unjust prejudice is leading us nowhere, and to tackle the business in a proper way, we must find out what the reasons for the prejudice are.

There may be some estates which suffer badly from being labelled South Indian Tea, but this is quite natural if the average of South Indian Tea is bad, as it is, and the ownership is in such few hands that all are affected equally, and all should take steps to try and put matters right.

There is no doubt at all that South India is difficult because of its continental climate which makes bigger seasonal variations in crop. Rutherford's book shows Ceylon monthly percentages of the year's crop varying from 6 to 12 per cent. My records for eleven years show variations :—

Worst year 3 per cent to 17 per cent.

Average „ 5 „ to 15 „

Best „ 6 „ to 12 „ (1930-31)

This gives some excuse when we compare with Ceylon, though the argument does not carry much weight when comparing North India.

However, I think it would be fairly safe to say that rushes are acute, and that few factories in South India are properly equipped to meet them. During a rush in an under-equipped factory rollers are jammed full (500 lbs. of leaf), dryers get behind, sifting is held up and 6d tea appears. Give a man enough machinery to get his work done on orderly lines, let manufacture be as good in May as it is in February and then see what happens.

The engineering side of the industry has been years out of date, firms with branches in South India and branches in Ceylon have never made the slightest attempt to work as one. Factories built in South India in the last few years are out of date already, in fact they were out of date when the plans were drawn up. To justify this statement I quote :—

(1) Alternating withering which adds 30-50 per cent to capacity.

(2) Chain drives to rollers to give strength by getting good pressure.

(3) Leaf verandahs to facilitate inspection of withered leaf and proper roller charging.

Ceylon have had these for many years.

The next curse of South India is leaf transport. In some districts, the lie of the land makes wire shooting leaf impossible and so in a rush season sacks packed full are jammed on to carts, surmounted often by a moist coolie and wend their way to the factory, taking hours, and arriving with leaf broken, cracked and fermenting, to meet a further delay in getting to the tats and spread. The tat space is generally insufficient and the tea-maker has to turn on hot air and inefficient fans to get the already ruined leaf into a condition on which his machinery can cope with it. These drawbacks are the faults of Agents and Engineers, who should know local conditions and keep up with modern developments in other countries.

There is another fault which is the agents, but might be put right by the urgency of the planters, and that is the payment for leaf. It is common practice for all pluckers to be paid on contract rates even for tipping leaf, and despite their basic wage. Now how does this suit a country with enormous crop variations?

Take an example of a 700 acre estate with about 700 coolies. Three hundred coolies will be reasonably good pluckers worth a 20-lb. average over the year. In a rush a close round has to be maintained so extra coolies are taken on from other works. Roughly the situation might approximate

300 coolies pluck a 30-lb. average	...	9,000 lbs.
150 "	10 "	1,500 ,
Total for the day	...	10,500 ,

To make good tea you are bound to keep your round up so you are bound to take on these coolies. They are not normally employed in plucking and by the time their hands get used to it the rush is over. 150 coolies in a 10-lb. average means an average pay of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas ; it also means 4 annas for half of them and no pay for others ! In a desperate attempt to make a living wage they bring in coarse leaf, coarse bangy and anything they can lay their hands on. It is difficult enough to get good leaf from good pluckers ; it is impossible to get it from bad coolies on contract plucking. But the fields must be plucked ; what is the solution ?

1. Agents must not lay down a law for too low a plucking rate ; they must consider prices versus costs, or rather versus plucking costs. If a rush of leaf takes 150 coolies off other cultivation, it is saving for that day $150 \times$ the Check Roll average, is it not fair to pay this to the coolies, the estate is getting 375 lbs. of made tea for it and keeping the bushes in order. The plucking cost goes up it is true, but what does an increase in cost per lb. matter, if cost per acre correspondingly goes down. The coolies have to be paid in any case. The bargain as it stands at present is :—

	RS	A	P
Saving $150 \times$ (say) 40 cents 60 0 0
Cost for 1,500 lbs. leaf at 3 pies per lb. 23 7 0
Loss to coolies 36 9 0
(or call it gain to estate)			

and gain to estate 1,500 lbs. of leaf.

It seems a shabby bargain to the coolies, but it is a bad one for the estate because the system means bad leaf and bad tea and hatred of the plucking field by those who cannot get a living wage from it.

2. The all in contract rate is fundamentally unsound. It does not train every coolie to be a plucker, and to keep down costs after (all in costs, not plucking costs), we must work on small labour forces, and every coolie must be a potential plucker. Therefore, to encourage pluckers and, to get them trained, there should be a minimum wage. The old Ceylon system is incomparably better than ours, and it gives a name for a stated number of lbs. of leaf and over that amount cash at contract rates.

With a four anna woman's rate at normal crop time—

Pay for 16 lbs. is a name

" 20 " " + 4 lbs. = 1 anna extra

" 40 " " + 24 " = 6 " "

For less than 16 lbs. a name, unless it is cut as a punishment.

In a big rush the minimum amount for name can be raised, on resuming normal conditions the rate lowered again. This is the principle of a minimum wage, accepted all over the world and essential for us.

This method as outlined may necessitate more supervision and it means that the slackers have to be worked not left to get into debt, but it must help to get better leaf and more trained coolies.

3. The idea that estates yielding 400 lbs. an acre can pluck for the same rates as estates yielding 1,000 lbs. an acre must be done away with. It is impossible, but how many agents expect it to be done?

The above solution to our problem may not be conclusive but reform in these matters will help. I hope it may influence agents to go for prices not crops, to go for profit per acre and not always harp on cost per lb.

If we all set about this trouble we can improve prices, forget the feeble sort of cry of 'The brokers hate us', and work up prices until we are as proud of them as we are of our rugger team.

Yours, etc.,
'PROFITS.'

Indian Tea Cess Committee

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

I would refer to your issue of 12th September and to a letter that appeared therein over the signature of a gentleman who describes himself as "CONCERNED" in regard to the Propaganda work of the Indian Tea Cess Committee.

I happen to be Chairman of the South Indian Association in London for the current year, and as such I represent South Indian Tea Interests on the Sub-Committee which is dealing with the Campaign to push the sale of Empire Tea in this country. Your correspondent has quoted in his letter an extract from a Calcutta Journal in regard to the Accounts of the Indian Tea Cess Committee for the year ending March 31, 1931, and there are one or two points in that quotation which require correction. In the first place the writer states that the Head Office of the Indian Tea Cess Committee is in London, whereas, of course, it is in Calcutta. He goes on to remark that the audit fee cost £450, and the establishment and travelling expenses £6,840 and a closer scrutiny of the Accounts on his part would have shown him that these are Rupee figures and not Sterling. It may also be noted that these items are Calcutta expenses and nothing to do with London. The extract proceeds to indicate that these expenses have come out of a figure of £10,000 which has been allotted to promoting the sale of Indian Tea in the United Kingdom. This particular sum of money, however, was passed by the Tea Cess Committee for expenditure in the current year and has no connection whatever with the Accounts under review for the year ending March 31, 1931.

If you could find a space in your Journal, I think it would be of general interest to the Planting Community if you would insert a copy of the letter sent to the *Times* Newspaper by the three Associations, and a copy of the editorial comment thereon in the *City News*, and I am sending you a copy of the *Times* of October 7, which published the letter.

An Organization has been set up which includes an Advisory Committee nominated by the various Branches of the Trade, including Producers, Buyers, Grocers, etc., and I have every hope that the wise expenditure of this sum of £10,000 will lead to a considerable increase in the public's demand for Empire Tea.

At the recent Grocers Exhibition in London an Empire Tea Stall was staged, and some 22 distributors were good enough to show brands of Empire Teas, and I am informed that considerable orders were taken. In addition, the Chairman of the Indian Tea Association addressed a Meeting of Grocers Representatives and received an enthusiastic welcome.

A General Election is now imminent, and I am in hopes that the efforts of the various Tea Associations to ensure the inclusion of a Preferential Duty in favour of Empire Tea in any Tariff that may be created by the new Government will be successful.

HIDDEN COTTAGE, HUNTERFORD, BERKS.

October 8, 1931.

Yours etc.,

J. R. H. PINCKNEY.

[*The following is copy of the letter sent to the Editor, 'The Times,' which is referred to in Mr. Pinckney's letter.*]

THE PRICE OF TEA

DEAR SIR,

In your issue of Friday (Saturday) last, a Director of Brooke Bond & Co. is reported to have said: 'Tea has risen in price too, but this is not justified.'

Now everyone connected with the trade knows that for many months past, tea has been selling in Mincing Lane at prices far below the cost of production, and even at the enhanced prices recently obtained in auction, many gardens are still selling at prices below production costs, and that, owing to the low rates received for their produce, Empire Tea companies have suffered enormous losses, and that there is danger of extensive areas now under tea going out of cultivation altogether. Shareholders have been deprived of dividends, the staffs on the gardens have had to be reduced, salaries have had to be curtailed, the Exchequer has lost revenue in the shape of income-tax, and employment in this country has been affected as a result of a diminished demand for machinery and other requisites for the production of tea.

Meanwhile, the increase in the shipments of Java and Sumatra tea to our market has been on a large scale, and this movement has been stimulated by the action of Mr. Churchill in abolishing the duty on tea, which gave a small fiscal preference to the Empire product. Holland levies an import duty of 7d. per pound on tea, while we admit tea grown in the Dutch East Indies free. In 1921, the retained imports of foreign tea in the United Kingdom amounted to 32·6 million pounds, while in 1930, the total rose to 85·7 million pounds. The Empire share of the total fell in the same period from 92·1 per cent to 81 per cent. Yet very few people know that they are consuming Java and Sumatra tea, as it is introduced into blends and the countries of its origin are never mentioned.

In these circumstances, a campaign has been inaugurated to increase the consumption of Empire tea in this country. The organizations representing the Empire producers have joined hands for the purposes of this movement, which has the support of the Empire Marketing Board, &

considerable number of the leading distributing houses have patriotically undertaken to place on the market blends of tea distinctly marked as 'Empire-grown', and the campaign has been enthusiastically welcomed by the grocery trade throughout the country. If the public will now insist upon being supplied with this tea, they will be helping a great Empire industry and also assisting employment here, to say nothing of increasing the national revenue. It is therefore to be hoped that the appeals made in influential quarters to buy Empire goods will be readily responded to in the case of tea.

The Director of Brooke Bond & Co. asserts that there is eight months' supply 'piled up' in this country. This statement is erroneous, as the stock, so far as it can be estimated, is equivalent to about five months' supply and any suggestion that Empire producers are profiteering or are likely to profiteer is grotesque as the bulk of tea is sold in public auction. Another inaccuracy in the statement is that tea has gone up 2½d. per lb. since the currency crisis as the average price of all tea sold in auction in the week ended September 17 was 1s. 1·59d. per lb. and for week ended October 1, 1s. 3·07d. per lb.

Yours, etc.,

R. GRAHAM,
Chairman, Indian Tea Association (London).

W. SHAKESPEARE,
President, Ceylon Association in London.

LONDON,
October 5, 1931.
J. R. H. PINCKNEY,
Chairman, South Indian Association in London.

[The Times' comment on the above letter as follows, which is taken from the Editorial in the 'City News' columns, dated October 7.]

AN EMPIRE TEA CAMPAIGN

The statement recently made by a Director of Brooke Bond & Co., in which the recent rise in the price of tea was described as unjustifiable, has called forth a reply from the three Indian and Ceylon Tea Associations which appears in another column. These associations of Empire tea-growers draw attention to the fact that even at the enhanced prices many tea gardens are still selling at prices below production costs, and that there is danger of extensive areas now under tea going out of cultivation altogether. While Indian and Ceylon companies are thus threatened by the low prices which have ruled for common teas, there has been a large increase in the shipments of Java and Sumatra tea to the London market. In 1921, the retained imports of foreign tea in the United Kingdom amounted to 32·6 million pounds, while in 1930 the total rose to 85·7 million pounds. The Empire share of the total of tea imports fell in the same period from 92·1 per cent to 81 per cent, and the associations point out that few people know that they are consuming Java and Sumatra tea, as it is introduced into blends and the countries of its origin are never mentioned. An effort is therefore being made to increase the consumption of Empire tea in this country, and the movement has the support of the Empire Marketing Board. Several of the leading distributing houses have undertaken to place on the market blends of tea marked as 'Empire-grown,' and the associations suggest that if the public will now insist upon being supplied with this tea, they will be helping a great Empire industry.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realised.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.							
Mark	Pkgs	Price		District	Week ending Oct. 8, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 8, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 8, 1930	s.	d.	s.	d.
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, Oct. 8 and 19, 1931, respectively.)				N. India	s. 1 2·43	d. 0 11·89		1	2·68		
				S. India	a 0 10·43	b 0 10·93	c	1	2·54		
				Ceylon ..	1 5·66	1 3·00		1	6·47		
				Java ..	0 8·39	0 7·41	0 10·05				
				Sumatra	0 7·51	0 7·66	0 11·14				
				Nyassa- l a n d .	0 7·09	0 6·91	0 9·26				
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —			s. d.	Total..	d 1 2·95	e 1 0·17	f 1 3·18				
Mukottu Mudi	222	1 54	(15)								
Gajam Mudi	155	1 3	(8)								
Sirkundra	108	1 24	(15)								
*Thay Mudi	303	1 12	(15)								
*Peria Karamalai	216	1 14	(15)								
Stanmore	66	1 14	(15)								
Natte Mudi	126	1 04	(8)								
*Eeteesar	61	1 04	(15)								
*Pachaimalai	35	1 04	(15)								
*Kallyar	113	0 114	(8)								
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i>											
Glenmary	71	1 04	(8)								
*Arnakal	138	1 04	(15)								
Carady Goody	108	1 04	(15)								
<i>Twyford and Ashley Estates</i> —											
Vembanaad	192	0 114	(15)								
Pambanar	96	0 114	(8)								
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —											
*Yellapatty	116	1 8	(15)								
Do.	125	1 54	(8)								
Sevenmallay	114	1 34	(8)								
* Do.	82	1 34	(15)								
Chokanad	99	1 3	(15)								
Chundavurrai	129	1 24	(8)								
Nettigudi	98	1 04	(8)								
Surianalle	81	1 04	(8)								
Lockhart	54	1 04	(8)								
(d) <i>Nilgires</i> —											
*Nonsuch	102	1 94	(15)								
*Prospect	174	1 74	(15)								
Craigmore	150	1 24	(15)								
Bhawani	108	1 24	(8)								
Glendale	72	1 2	(15)								
*Brooklands	222	0 114	(15)								
(e) <i>Wynaad</i> —											
Tanga Mulla	36	1 54	(8)								
Perengodda	66	1 14	(8)								
* Do.	120	1 04	(15)								
Kardoora	102	1 04	(15)								
Pootoomulla	66	1 04	(8)								
Arrapetta	125	1 04	(15)								

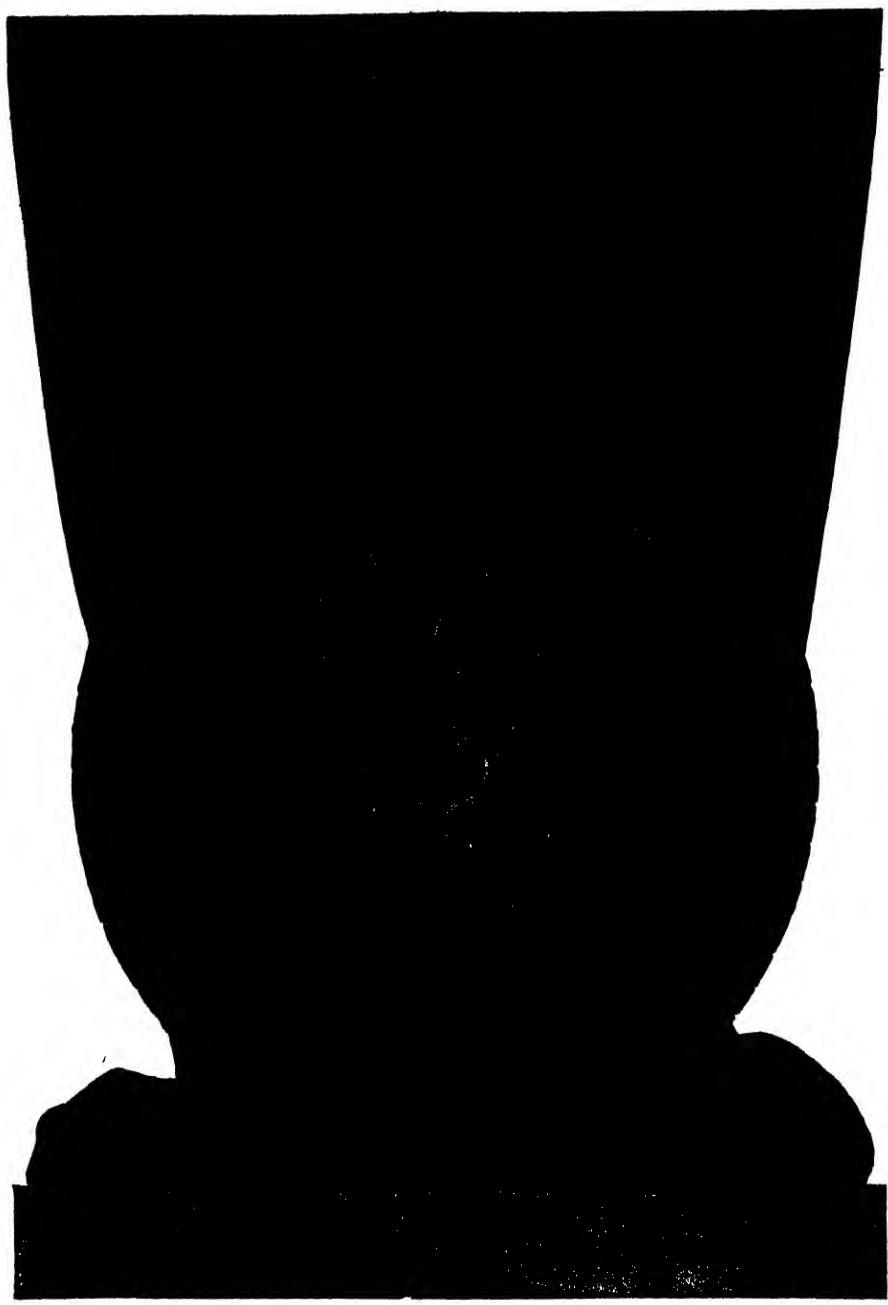
* Where invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below —

a 6,265	b 238,666	c 271,702
d 96,468	e 3,320,270	f 3,196,591
g 7,542	h 246,008	i 278,110
j 93,356	k 3,413,626	l 3,279,965

(B) RUBBER.—The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, November 3, 1931, was 3½d.
London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 31, 1931, were 76,698 tons, a decrease of 1,767 tons on October 24, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, October 31, 1931, were 56,816 tons, an increase of 1,019 tons on October 24, 1931, inventory.





Government House,
Madras, 26th January 1931.

His Excellency
Sir George Stanley
is hereby pleased to appoint
The Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd.
Madras,
to be Tyre Makers
in ordinary to His Excellency and
The Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd are
hereby authorized to style themselves
Tyre Makers
in ordinary to His Excellency the Governor
of Madras accordingly
By command of His Excellency the Governor

G. & S. - Engineers
Military Secretary to H. E. the Governor

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, November 5, 1931

The following report on the Madras Market is made available to us through the courtesy of Messrs. Huson, Tod & Co.:—

Planting.—Tea shares came in for brisk demand, which was not damped by the news that Periakaramalais had passed their final dividend. Scrip is very scarce, selling rates being Rs. 29 and Rs. 20 for the participating and non-participating shares respectively. Vellamalais were also asked for but no sellers appeared at buyers' rates. In Rubbers, Cochin Malabars changed hands at Re. 1 and Malayalamas improved to 9s.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		L	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£	1	6	-1
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£	1	7	+ 1/3
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£	1	8	+ 6d.
4. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£	1	7	...
5. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	2s.	0	0	10	+ 2½d.
6. Pullangode Rubber	...	£	1	0	- 2½d.
7. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	6
8. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£	1	14	1½
9. Travancore Rubber	...	£	1	0	- 1½d.
					—

Rupee Companies	Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	1
Cochinas Rs. 15	4	5½
Devasholas Rs. 9	5	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	...	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	...	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	15	19
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	...	Noml.
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	...	2
7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	...	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	14	16
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	24	28
(Rs. 15) Non-participating	...	20
Periasholas Rs. 10	8 as.	12 as.
Periyars Rs. 10	1	1½
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	...	1½
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	...	3
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	70	75
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	9	10

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

T.R.A.—The quantity catalogued on October 27, 1931, totalled 1,865,315 lbs. **NUWARA ELIVA AND MATURATA.** Quality was fairly well maintained and well up to the average for the time of year. Demand was on a somewhat limited scale and quotations were established on a slightly lower level. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality of offerings from Uva showed a falling off, but a few invoices from Dimbulा and similar districts showed a slight improvement. Demand was fairly active but only at a lower level of value: Broken Orange Pekoes in particular declined appreciably. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Broken grades met with good demand at firm rates but leaf grades were in less demand and

tended easier. Low GROWN. As in the case of Medium teas, Broken grades were actively supported and prices generally moved in sellers favour. Orange Pekoes were easier while Pekoes remained about steady. FANNINGS AND DUSTS. Good quality fannings came to an irregular market but quotations generally were without material change. Dusts of all descriptions were about steady.

South Indian Teas in Auction of October 20, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates				Total lbs.	Average
Chittavurrai				12,072	97
Kanniamallay				9,402	72

RUBBER.—Only 92 tons were offered at the Auction held on October 22, 1931, at which there was only a fair demand, and prices were rather irregular. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold throughout at $-/13\frac{1}{2}$ cents being $\frac{1}{8}$ th of a cent dearer than last week. Fair and Off quality sorts were in fair demand and showed a quarter cent rise. There was not very much Contract quality Crepe printed and demand was quite keen at $-/14\frac{1}{2}$ cents—being $\frac{1}{8}$ th cent above the previous Auction price. Off and Mottled sorts were not well competed for but were $\frac{1}{8}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ th cent dearer respectively. There was a very good demand for Clean Brown Scrap Crepe which was $\frac{1}{8}$ cent dearer but dark and black sorts were often neglected. There was only a small quantity of good Scrap in the Auction which sold at last week's price.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

October 18, 1931, to October 31, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ..	4·87	1·02	5·89
2. Kalthuritty.	2·83	5·96	8·79	25. Kotagiri ..	5·34	0·77	6·11
3. Kalla B'dge.	5·03	6·08	11·11	26. Ootacamund ..	2·32	0·44	2·76
4. Koney ...	11·68	3·32	15·00	27. Yercaud ..	2·33	1·54	3·87
5. Pattanapura.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	28. Mango Range ..	3·15	0·60	3·75
6. Kumbazha...	6·23	2·23	8·46	29. Devala ..	2·28	0·22	2·50
6a Peravanthan...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
6b Aneikolam...	4·66	5·99	10·65	31. CALICUT ..	2·21	0·18	2·39
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ..	3·04	0·26	3·30
8. Twyford ...	8·93	5·27	14·20	33. Vayitri ..	2·50	0·80	3·30
9. V'periyar ...	4·28	2·55	6·83	34. Manantoddi...	0·82	0·62	1·44
10. Kalaar ...	2·75	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ..	3·31	0·71	4·02
11. Chittuvurrai.	2·24	1·56	3·80	36. Sidapur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. BODI'KANUR	1·89	1·19	3·08	37. Ghatted Hullia	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	6·07	3·14	3·21	38. Pollibetta ..	1·06	N.R.	N.R.
14. Mooply ...	3·01	2·01	5·02	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	40. Saklaspur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	6·75	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamanie ..	0·54	0·35	0·89
17. POLLACHIE	2·27	1·98	4·25	42. Balehonnur...	0·16	N.R.	N.R.
18. Neill'pathy ...	4·54	N.R.	N.R.	43. Merthisub'gey	0·97	N.R.	N.R.
19. Karapara ...	4·01	1·27	5·28	44. Kelagur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
20. Pullengode...	5·56	N.R.	5·56	45. Durgadbettta ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
21. Nilambur ..	4·34	0·05	4·39	46. MANGALORE ..	0·02	0·48	0·50
22. Naduvattam	2·65	0·26	2·91	47. MADRAS ..	0·48	5·34	5·82
23. Nilgiri Peak	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.				

N. R. No Return received.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 24] November 21, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

PLANTERS in Southern India will receive, with deep regret, the news of the death of Mr. J. S. Nicolls which occurred on Sunday, October 25 last, and their sympathy will be extended to his devoted wife and also his two sons who are still planting in Nilgiri-Wynaad.

Mr. Nicolls—Johnnie Nicolls—came to India in the nineties after some years in Ceylon, to work on the Panora Estates in Wynaad, then managed by Mr. Richard Lamb, where tea was beginning to be planted. After some years he took charge of the Deverashola property owned by Messrs. Hodgson, Hamlin and Church. Here he made a great success, keeping the price of Deverashola tea at the head of the South Indian averages for a long time. When the property was bought by Messrs. Brooke Bond, he remained in charge till he left India.

He then settled in Horley, Surrey, but continued to work for the firm, going to London on most days and visiting their tea properties in India and East Africa from time to time.

Many are indebted to him and his wife for a helping hand in their troubles, and his death came as a great shock after being ill with pleurisy for a month, just when an improvement had appeared to set in.

The late Mr. J. S. Nicolls was three times Chairman of the U.P.A.S.I. by whom he will long be remembered.

A new issue of the *Planting Directory* is now in the course of preparation, and although all District Associations have been advised that, provided a sufficient number of copies are guaranteed, it will be possible to reduce the price of the *Directory*, the response has not been entirely satisfactory. We therefore once again remind all members of the U.P.A.S.I. through their District Associations that any orders received by the end of November, 1931, will be executed at the low cost of Rs. 3-8-0 per copy, postage paid. After the end of November, all orders will be charged at the rate of Rs. 5 nett per copy, postage paid.

It is to be hoped that all Associations who desire to increase their orders will immediately communicate with the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I.

IN view of the many enquiries we receive from time to time regarding the correct procedure for sending samples of soil and manures for analysis, we have reproduced on page 568 *et seq.* full details *Analysis of Soil samples, etc.* together with the scale of fees charged for such analysis. It should be noted that the fees due by the members of the U.P.A.S.I. will be collected through the Secretary of the Association.

NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

TEA

The Budget, having left tea (and also sugar) untouched, housewives are still asking themselves as well as each other, whether tea should not be much cheaper. The duty in the U. K. on tea (then 4d. lb.) was removed on April 22, 1929, say two and a half years ago. The tax was producing £6,000,000 (roughly) a year, and so £15,000,000 were thrown aside unasked—possibly to catch votes which the planters overseas do not possess. What proportion of those millions have found their way into the planters' pockets? We would claim practically none. Teas below 10d. or even 1s. lb. retail were put on the shop counters, but any teas above 1s. 6d. lb. and especially above 2s. and 2s. 6d., have been putting the 4d. into the pockets of the distributors. What does any British tea planter say on this most important point? Itinerant vendors at the countryside who claim to be travelling for a firm who will take them on permanently if they can open fifty new accounts are still selling poorer tea at 2s. 8d. lb. than the writer of these notes is buying in London at 2s., and even at 1s. 8d. lb., and is entirely ungrateful at being charged so much. In one case a French housewife—not well off—living in the heights of Surrey, actually paid the itinerant vendor 3s. 6d. for what others found to be the same, certainly no better than their 2s. 8d. packets. We are not interested in the retailing of tea beyond liking to get half-a-crown tea for one shilling, instead of, at present apparently, the other way round, but what do the tea planters say to all this? Are present advertised and (such) unadvertised prices justified by the rates paid to the planters in public sale in London? If they are not, and we cannot believe they are, why do not the planters, through the London press, tell the public all about it? Is it true, on the other hand, that the bulk of the teas now being retailed at 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. lb., if not higher, cost the keen buyers only 10d. or 1s. lb., packeted and delivered to the warehouses, now that no duty has to be paid? Put it at 1s. lb., then

Mr. Itinerant Vendor and his supplier get 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. profit; how much the house-to-house vendor (probably an ex-soldier unable to get a job) gets as his share, history does not relate. Also, what exactly has happened to those £15,000,000 and who has benefited by it?

—*Tropical Life, October 1931.*

IN LIGHTER VRIN

'Strix,' in the *Assam Review*, has some suggestions to make on tea propaganda. He writes: "Now that Tea and Home Boards are so depressed, surely something might be done in the way of a 'Brighter Tea Movement? A few tasteful advertisements spread along the garden roads at intervals would do wonders! Drink more tea—it is so bracing.' 'Have you drunk your tea this morning—if not, why not?' 'Come and watch our happy coolies carrying tea—only two rupees a pound to you.' 'Do your friends shun your tea parties? Why?' And then, again, at home something should be done to capture the imagination of the tea-drinker. What does the average family at home know of the hardships of the tea-planter in Assam? Nothing. Right, then let us have a tea exhibition, with tableau representing the daily life of the planter. A picture of the smiling labour force gaily greeting its *Burra-Sahib* in the morning would be much appreciated. A scene showing a tea planter salving his car from the *khud*, at two in the morning, would bring home to our armchair critics the daily hazards that the planter so cheerfully undertakes. And then, of course, a touch of the domestic—what about the scene in the board room when the chairman of the directors gives the toast of 'The Staff in India,' and drinks it in a cup of tea, brewed by his own fair hands. In fact, it seems that the tea market is one that has never been fully exploited from an advertising point of view and if only some one were alive to the possibilities of this scheme, there would be a boom in tea so great that the pessimistic planter of to-day would collapse under its magnitude."

DUMPING AFFECTS EMPIRE TEA—SIR C. MCLEOD'S APPEAL

LONDON, November 17, 1931.

A strong plea for the protection of Empire tea was made by Sir Charles McLeod, of Messrs. McLeod and Co., Calcutta, addressing the Royal Empire Society.

He contended that all the requirements of the Empire could be met by Empire-grown tea, whereas for years Britain had allowed the dumping of tea grown in the Dutch East Indies, which was admitted free into Britain, while Holland itself imposed an import duty of 7d. per lb.

Moreover the Dutch East Indies tea was blended with other teas, unknown to the public.

Meanwhile, the Empire tea industry was suffering heavy losses. The selling price was not covering the cost of production, and many tea companies in India and Ceylon were in a serious position. The producers were prepared to agree to the imposition of a duty, provided that a substantial preference was given to Empire tea.—*Reuters.*

PLANTING PRODUCE

IN THE

LONDON MARKET

July—September, 1931

Messrs. Leslie & Anderson send us the following very interesting review, dated September 30, 1931, of the London Market for Planting Produce during the Third Quarter of the Current Year :—

In reporting on affairs on this occasion we make no apology for prefacing our remarks with the statement that markets since the date of our last Review have been under the stress both of economic and political influences, so that conditions have been far from normal. We are not without hope, however, now that a policy of drastic economy has been initiated by our National Government we shall see a return of some confidence, which should go far to infuse a better tone to trade generally.

The dropping of the Gold Standard here on September 21 had an immediate effect on most produce markets, especially in regard to spot goods, for sterling prices automatically became about 20 per cent cheaper in foreign currencies, with the result that there was an active demand for many commodities and markets became firm, though at time of writing the spurt of buying by foreigners has abated and in most cases prices have failed to retain the highest quotations. It follows, in the meantime, that those countries who do not drop the Gold Standard are favourably placed for the purchase of goods here, at cheaper prices than before, but if there is a general dropping of the Gold Standard, exchanges between this and other countries will revert to the original ratio and values will continue between ourselves and others as they were. Time only will demonstrate how the changed conditions will operate and suit individual States, so that it is impossible for us to form any reliable opinion at present as to prices in the future.

It is obvious, however, that supplies of many of the staple articles catalogued under the heading of Crops are still greatly in excess of the world's requirements and for this reason a recovery in values, as regards such commodities as Cereals, Sugar, Cotton, Linseed (affecting all Oils), Coffee (Brazil), Rubber, etc., etc., is hardly to be expected for some time to come. Producers in many instances must, we fear, get reconciled to a new level of prices until an equilibrium between supply and demand in these articles is restored.

Departing from our usual practice to make reference to commodities outside those coming under our immediate notice, we would add that there are already unmistakeable signs that our export trade will benefit at least temporarily by the dropping of the Gold Standard and a greater demand for Coal, Cotton, Woollen, Steel and Leather Goods should ensue, relieving, we hope, to some extent, the 'Unemployment' problem. The demand for tonnage has increased with improved freight rates and there is considerable activity in the chartering of steamers for Coal, so a quantity of tonnage lying idle for many months is again coming into commission. We can only express the hope that further well-considered legislation will help to lift the cloud of depression that has so long hung over our country.

COFFEE

During July, August and early September the market continued quiet. Arrivals were moderate but the enquiry at Auctions was limited, partly due

to the unattractive quality of the offerings, but the change in the political situation helped to give a better tone, and when the Gold Standard was dropped, there was an active demand from the Continent for most spot coffees, resulting in the sale of several thousand bags, chiefly Central American coffees, that were being held off the market for the usual demand in October-November.

EAST INDIAS.—As customary at this period of the year and because the market was firm in May and June there has been little business to report and to-day we believe there can be little held in Importers' hands. As regards the prospects of prices in the New Year for the next crop, it is impossible at present to take a clear view but we think we can rely on the experience of last season when it was evident that 'Mild' Coffees were in increased demand. There is no indication so far that there will be an over-supply of these in 1932 but rather that crops will be smaller.

COSTA RICAS.—As shown below stocks of these are larger at September 30 than they were a year ago, but with recent purchases referred to above we expect to see more favourable figures later on. In any case these coffees, being chiefly of good quality, can take care of themselves.

EAST AFRICAS.—Moderate arrivals of New Crop have been offered in Auctions and prices, taking the quality into consideration, have been fair. We now learn that this crop is unlikely to reach the same total as last season.

BUKOBAS.—In the early period under review prices tended downwards and a moderate business was carried on, chiefly to Continental ports, but with the enhanced purchasing power of the Dollar, as compared with Sterling, a considerable business has recently been put through with New York and Western Ports prices rising as much as 6 per cwt. With the gradual appreciation of the Pound Sterling New York is now not so free a buyer but no doubt exporters in Mombasa will, though reluctantly, accommodate their selling price to current values in view of the recent better sales they have made. This contingency will of course be dependent to some extent on the quantity still available.

BRAZILS.—With the gradual decline in the Milreis exchange the price for Santos Superior fell away during July and August and part of September, the lowest quotation being 38/- on September 7. With the exchange between Rio and New York remaining constant Brazilian prices are now quoted on the Dollar basis with the result that the Sterling quotation to-day has risen to about 49/- per cwt. c. and f. It is of interest to notice, with the experience of the past three months, that the additional 10/- per bag export tax has not been borne by the consumer.

Total exports from Brazil during the twelve months July 1, 1930, to June 30, 1931, are estimated at 17,400,000 bags against 15,080,000 bags during the 1929-30 crop year and 13,289,222 bags during the 1928-29 crop year.

The most important event lately in Brazil was the issue of Sir Otto Niemeyer's Report on Brazil's financial and economic position. It is a lengthy document but seems to have been well received in Rio de Janeiro and we give the following extracts as bearing on the coffee position:—

" . . . Sir Otto pointed out the disproportionate rôle played by coffee in the economic position of Brazil, and said that one-sided development causes the greatest difficulties. The unfortunate experience of coffee valorisation has shown that it is no exception to other commodities, and it has resulted in excessive over-production and a consequent loss in not utilising land, labour and money for produce that is required. . . ."

" . . . In liquidating the present position no further steps should now be taken which involve governmental responsibility for the price of coffee or interfere with the natural adjustments and transfer to other production. . . . The folly in believing that the foreign importer can be made to carry the full burden of these export taxes is gradually being demonstrated by the slow, but sure, fall in quotations in the Santos market. . . ."

" . . . In conclusion Sir Otto wished to emphasise that in many respects Brazil's difficulties are less than those of other countries, and she may justly challenge comparison. He was impressed by her great natural resources and considers no country would better repay sound financial administration, or is more worth every attempt to keep to high financial tradition, and no country is more likely to profit by the effort, if successfully made. . . ."

We quote spot prices in London and give the statistical position here at date below :—

EAST INDIA, Good to fine ...		100/- @ 145/- per cwt
" " Low to Medium	... 75/- @ 95/-	
COSTA RICA, Good to fine ...	... 115/- @ 150/-	
" " Low to Medium	... 70/- @ 105/-	
COLUMBIA, Medium ...	... 78/- @ 85/-	
KENYA. Good to fine ...	... 85/- @ 125/-	
" " Low to Medium	... 35/- @ 75/-	
BUKOBA, Plantation, C.F.I. Oct.-Nov.		37/-
Native " do.		29/-
JAVA ROBUSTA, F.A.Q., C.F.I. do.		52/-
JAVA PALAM BANG, F.A.Q., C.F.I. do.		30/-
SANTOS SUPERIOR, C. & F.	... 49/-	
RIO No. 7, C. & F. ...		36/-

	Landed		Home Con.		Export		Stock		
	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1929
COFFEE—									
British West India ... tons	91	70	65	29	15	1	115	71	41
British East India ...	2,190	4,190	1,189	1,298	747	1,674	1,025	1,612	691
Total British Plantation..	2,281	4,260	1,254	1,327	762	1,675	1,140	1,683	732
Mocha ...	650	844	551	521	80	99	487	605	562
Foreign East India ...	217	158	177	213	23	33	188	155	161
Brazil ...	231	252	260	183	44	106	114	67	386
Colombian ...	1,579	962	774	647	454	618	513	454	1,007
Costa Rica ...	13,250	14,606	6,917	7,285	3,918	6,565	4,196	3,247	4,288
Guatemala, &c. ...	2,076	1,075	698	390	706	589	912	216	338
African ...	12,460	12,383	6,330	6,423	5,893	4,967	3,628	2,953	2,641
Total Foreign...	30,463	30,280	18,007	15,662	11,118	13,007	10,038	7,697	9,377
Grand Total ...	32,744	34,546	17,261	16,389	11,889	14,582	11,178	9,380	10,109

TEA

The Market has been more interesting. Quality has improved and the statistical position is less dull. Demand has been quite active, due, in some measure, to these reasons, but chiefly to the decision of the Government to remove the Gold Standard, and the rise in prices that has occurred recently is in the nature of an adjustment to the new sterling value. Common Indian B.P.S is now 7d. per lb. compared with 4½d. at the end of last quarter. New Seasons Indians have sold well, especially good liquoring and tippy kinds which are realizing well up to last Season's prices, while South Indians have met with much more competition of late and are distinctly dearer. Common kinds have been keenly competed for and it seems that the cheaper retail packets are selling more freely, probably owing to National Economy reasons.

Stocks are not so large, as clearances from warehouses were heavy just before the emergency Budget, in which a Duty or Tariff was anticipated incorrectly. The London Stock at the end of September was 195 millions lbs. compared with 223 million lbs. at the same period last year—at the end of August this year the Stock was 11 million lbs. more than it is now. The Northern Indian Crop to the end of August was 9½ million lbs. less than last year, the figures being 183 against 192½ millions lbs.

Future prospects are a little more encouraging and though fluctuations in the Market appear likely, the recent advance should be maintained, while the fall in the value of £ abroad should stimulate and increase Export demand.

RUBBER

In common with all other commodities Rubber appreciated sharply as a result of the British Government's decision to abandon the Gold Standard temporarily. The price rose from 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. in the course of a few days, but subsequently reacted and is now fluctuating on the basis of 2½d. Until this unexpected announcement occurred, the Rubber Market was in a stagnant condition, prices having fallen gradually from the level of 3½d. per lb. at the end of June to 2½d. per lb. and subsequently fluctuating very narrowly on the basis of 2½d. to 2¾d.

Rumours have been of frequent occurrence with regard to schemes for Restriction. These, however, apparently have no official backing and are mainly the ideas of individuals or small bodies or planters. Unless some form of Restriction is introduced, it would seem as though Rubber will fluctuate in accordance with the relationship of the Dollar to the £ as the statistical position does not warrant any appreciable change.

Stocks are still mounting in America but some slowing up is apparent in this country and the rest of the world, but on the other hand consumption continues to be disappointing.

We are afraid that we must look to outside influences for any livening up of the rubber market.

We quote :—

PLANTATION SMOKED SHEETS	Spot	... 2½d. per lb.
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Do.	Oct./Nov.	... 2½d. "
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Do.	Jan./March	... 3½d. "
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LONDON STOCK 80,055 Tons—same date last year	...	81,495 Tons.
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LIVERPOOL STOCK 54,779 Tons	...	34,718
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SENDING SAMPLES OF SOIL AND MANURES FOR ANALYSIS

Subject to the limitation of departmental work, the Government Agricultural Chemist at Coimbatore is prepared to undertake the examination of soils, manures, etc., sent by *bona fide* landowners and cultivators. The fees charged for such analysis are shown below:—

A. Soils.—The fertility of a soil depends on many factors and hence chemical analysis must be considered only as a partial guide in estimating its crop-producing power. Provided, however, that the sample is collected in a proper manner and full particulars as indicated below are furnished with the sample, much useful advice as to the manurial or other requirements of the soil can often be given as the result of a chemical analysis.

It is essential that the sample of soil for analysis should be really representative of the whole plot or field and not be taken from one patch which may be particularly good or particularly bad. The following method should therefore be adopted: Collect several samples, say, about a dozen, from all parts of the field, taking out the soil to a depth of 8 or 9 inches and mix these together. Any surface vegetation should be scraped off before the samples are taken. Dry the mixed soil in the air, taking 5 lb. of the sample, pack this securely in a cloth bag enclosed in gunny, and send the sample.—

To

The Government Agricultural Chemist,
Lawley Road P. O.,
Coimbatore.

The name and address of the sender should be enclosed in the parcel. At the same time, send a letter to the Government Agricultural Chemist with the following information :—

1. Name and address of the person who sends the sample.
2. Locality—village, taluk and district—where the land is situated.
3. Survey number of the field.
4. Nature of the land, wet (single or double crop), dry or garden land.
5. Crop usually raised.
6. Facilities for irrigation.
7. Facilities of drainage.
8. Manurial history of the land.
9. What is particularly the defect in the land, as far as can be judged by the party himself.

If more than one sample be sent, great care should be taken that the samples are securely packed so that they may not become mixed up in transit.

B. Manures.—Send not less than one pound of the manure securely packed. In the case of substances such as lime, the sample should be enclosed in an air-tight tin. The sample should be representative of the whole consignment. If the latter is a large one, samples should be collected from every tenth bag, these should be mixed well together and a final

sample taken from the mixture for analysis. If the consignment is a small one only, mix thoroughly the whole quantity before taking the sample.

Fees.—The scale of fees shown below will be charged for analysis and the fees due by the members of the U.P.A.S.I. will be collected through the Secretary of the Association.

A—Soils

	Rs
1. Complete chemical analysis including the available potash and phosphoric acid 25	
2. Mechanical analysis 5	
3. Complete chemical and mechanical analysis 30	
4. Alkaline soils (extra fee) 10	

B—Manures

1. Poonacs (nitrogen) 5
2. Blood meal (nitrogen) 5
3. Nitrate or calcium cyanamide (nitrogen) 5
4. Nitrate of soda (nitrogen) 5
5. Nitrate of lime (nitrogen) 5
6. Kainit, muriate of potash or sulphate of potash (potash) 5
7. Limestone or slaked lime (lime and carbon dioxide) 5
8. Fish (nitrogen and phosphoric acid) 10
9. Bonemeal (nitrogen and phosphoric acid) 10
10. Superphosphates and basic slag (total soluble phosphoric acid) 10
11. Saltpetre (nitrogen and potash) 10
12. Ashes (potash and lime) 10
13. Mixture of poonac and fish (nitrogen and phosphoric acid) 10
14. Mixture of poonac and bonemeal (nitrogen and phosphoric acid) 10
15. Mixture of fish, poonac and sulphate of potash (nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid) 15
16. Mixed manure with four elements (nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid and lime) 20
17. Farm yard manure 15
18. Green manure 15
19. Vegetable compost 15

C—Feeding Stuffs and Fodders

1. Feeding stuffs and fodders (moisture, crude, proteids, albuminoids, fat, crude, fibre and soluble carbohydrates) ...	30
2. Feeding stuffs and fodders (manurial value—potash and phosphoric acid) extra 10	

D—Miscellaneous

1. Oilseeds (oil only) 5
2. Water for irrigation purposes only 10

EX-PLANTER, M.P.

SIR WALTER SMILES' VICTORY IN HOME ELECTION

Jorhat, November 4.

Sir Walter Smiles, who triumphed at Blackburn in the General Election by 14,000 votes, is a grandson of Dr. Samuel Smiles of 'Self-Help' fame, and was for many years a prominent figure in Assam. He came to Assam in 1904 as engineer to the Assam Company, and seven years later became Divisional Manager of the Moran Tea Company, of which he is now a Director.

After a distinguished war career, Sir Walter returned to Assam and became General Manager of the Moran Tea Company. With the Introduction of the Reforms he took a leading part in legislative affairs, and from 1922 to 1930 was a member of the Assam Legislative Council. He was appointed by that body to the Provincial Committee to co-operate with the Simon Commission, and was later selected by his Indian colleagues to be Chairman of that Committee, the only European in India to be selected for such a position.

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THE S.D.'S ALPHABET

A is Abroad where his ambitions always lay
 B is Bibby Boat which brought him out to A.
 C is Colombo where he left the B
 D is Dhanaskodie well remembered en route from C
 E is Estate where his home for 5 years will be
 F is the Factory his first sight on E
 G is the Gin except on Sundays, let it be
 H is the Head from drinking too much G
 I are the Indians among whom his work lies
 J is Jat The different kinds of Is.
 K is Kanakapulle—never worth his pay
 L is his Labour supposed to be watched by K
 M is Muster Twice daily he attends
 N are the Names he enters up at Ms
 O is the Office He daren't near it go for
 P is his P.D. who lurks about the O.
 Q are his Quarters Bungalows old and new,
 R are the Repairs always wanting for Q
 S is his Salary, its getting less and less
 T are the Taxes he must pay out of S
 U is the I.O.U. or cbits which soon are due
 V is the Vakil he hears from re. his U
 W is Work do not let it trouble you for
 X is XXX (beer) that helps your W
 Y is the Yield which always is a lie
 Z is the Zeal with which he tells of Y.

JAD.

AN UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL

P	alatabl	E
L	itera	L
A	nalyti	C
N	eo Madrass	I
T	yewritte	N
E	Dorad	O
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C	yclopaedi	C
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R	egistra	R
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L	yrica	L
E	ectro-ty	P.

JAD.

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U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

BOOK OF PROCEEDINGS—AMENDMENT

The following letter has been received from Mr. E. N. Pinks, Hon. Secretary, K.D.P.A., in connection with the above :—

To The Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., Madras

DEAR SIR,

I have received the Book of Proceedings for 1931 Meeting at Bangalore and beg to draw your attention to page 62 and my remarks after proposing my Association's amendment to the A. P. A. Resolution. If you will read these through you will see that my remarks have been so mutilated that they contain no sense. Actually I spoke as follows :—

' We put up this amendment partly on a misunderstanding which has since been elucidated. We understood from the Anamallai's resolution that it was their intention to entirely close down and do away with the station, but in view of what Mr. Johnson has said on behalf of his Association and Sir Fairless Barber's remarks I would like to associate myself with those views. We think that we should keep in mind the possibility of affiliation with Ceylon, keep the buildings and equipment in good order with that in view, but not incur any further expenditure on work at the station.'

After Mr. C. L. Greig had spoken, Mr. Johnson asked the Chairman a question regarding resignation from the Scientific Department to which the Chairman replied: I did not hear Mr. Johnson's question and I stood up and said 'I did not hear Mr. Johnson's question Sir, and I am unable to understand your answer', to which the Chairman replied that a District Association cannot resign the Scientific Department unless he resigns the Association. The mutilations and omissions make the report of the Meeting valueless as far as the Kanan Devan Delegates are concerned and cause our representations to appear to be absolutely futile.

SHOLAMALLAY ESTATE,
MUNNAR, P.O.,
TRAVANCORE,
November 2, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
E. N. PINKS,
Honorary Secretary,
Kanan Devan Planters' Association (Inc.).

DISTRICT NOTES**mysore**

**The Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Mysore Planters' Association
(Incorporated), held at Kadur Club, Chickmagalur, at 10-30 a.m.
on Thursday, October 22, 1931**

Present :

E. W. Fowke, Esq. (*Chairman*), Messrs. G. Q. Archard, J. Backhouse, E. H. Beadnell, H. Browne, S. H. Dennis, M. A. de Weck, M. D'Souza, H. H. English, J. E. Ferrers, G. V. R. Frend, L. Garrett, A. L. Hill, G. S. Homewood, St. John Hunt, C. S. Iron, L. P. Kent, S. L. Mathias, F. D. Meppen, A. Middleton, J. S. H. Morgan, W. G. Stonehouse, H. Watson, E. H. Young and C. C. Couchman (*Secretary*).

Visitors :

Messrs. Cayley and W. W. Mayne.

By Proxy :

Messrs. W. F. Scholfield and G. M. Easton.

The Secretary read the Notice calling the Meeting.

Read letter from Mr. Gilbart-Smith. The Meeting advised the Secretary to express its strong disapproval at the wording contained therein.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

*The Report of the Executive Committee, the Mysore Planters' Association,
for the period 1-7-1931 to 30-9-1931*

References.—Fifteen references have been made to the Committee.

Meetings.—One Quarterly General Meeting and one Extraordinary General Meeting have been held.

Roads.—At the suggestion of a Member, the Executive Committee took up the matter of Lump-sum Contracts, and a complaint that the Junior Officials were attempting to give detailed instructions as to the amount of work to be done.

The Supervising Engineer kindly offered to meet your Executive and discuss the whole position. This Meeting took place on the 23rd of August, and was attended by the Executive Engineers of the Hassan and Kadur Districts.

With regard to contracts, the Supervising Engineer remarked that all road contractors do not carry out their works in the proper manner. This necessitates some form of contract in order that, in the case of bad work, he may have some hold over the contractor. He admitted that Members of this Association taking up Contracts did do good work, in fact he wished even more sections could be taken up by Members. However, he desired to make it clear that he could not differentiate between Members of this Association and non Members in the matter of Road Contracts. This

appeared to your Committee to be logical and quite fair. With regard to the attempt to issue detailed instructions in the month of June, the Supervising Engineer stated that this was impracticable and undesirable. He was quite firm on this point and it is to be hoped that Members will not be bothered in future.

He explained that the Assistant Engineer, Sakaspur Division, when stating that all side drains and ingrowing jungle need not be cleared or cut back, was not putting his wishes clearly. The idea was to stop scraping side-drains already one foot deep, or more, and divert any money saved thereby to the minor repairs of bridges and culverts as explained in the contract. This repairing of bridges and culverts means no more than is being done at present. The reference to ingrowing jungle refers only to those places where it is not really necessary to cut.

He agreed that the collection of gravel for measurement, or at any time remote from the season of application, was not sound, and promised to make arrangements for this ruling to be altered. In future this item is to be left to the discretion of the Executive Engineer. After all consolidation works are completed, this Officer will be able to see if works are up to the standard, and the report from that officer will be sufficient.

With regard to the collection of metal, he could see no objections as it already has to be collected in order to measure up the cooly's contract. This point was not pressed any further.

Time of Payment.—The Supervising Engineer explained that according to the rules by which his department was run, there are two working seasons, the consolidation and the collection seasons. For the same reason that it is impossible to differentiate in the granting of Contracts, it is impossible to pay certain Contractors at seasons other than the usual. In addition there was an inter-departmental difficulty in connection with payments. The Audit Department have objected to payments being made in March. The argument advanced being that final payment of all contracts must be at the termination of the Contract. This again is logical and the rule applies to all Contracts in the State. (The end of the road contract being June 30th.) To circumvent this difficulty the Supervising Engineer suggested that the dates of Contracts be altered to April 1st and March 31st, instead of as at present, July 1st and June 30th. Your Committee agreed, and the matter is being put up to the Government for sanction.

The Supervising Engineer agreed that recent interference with works on the part of subordinates was wrong, and promised that it would not occur again. He also agreed that in future any communications in connection with our roads should come from the Executive Engineers.

Legislative Council.—The Association was asked to submit two names to Government as candidates for the above body, Government to select one Member. Messrs. Newcome and Dennis were elected by your Executive, both kindly agreed to their names going forward. The names were sent in, and Mr. Dennis was elected as our Representative.

Mysore State Bonds 7 per cent.—These Bonds fell due in September. Your Committee decided to reinvest the whole of the amount previously invested in 7 per cent Bonds in the new 5½ per cent issue of Mysore Bonds.

Advances to Labour.—Suggestions were made to the Committee that the rate of advances for the coming year be decided. Your Committee

examined the suggestion and decided that it was too early to decide anything in the matter, and suggested that the subject be left until early in January.

(Sd.) E. W. FOWKE (*Chairman*).
 (Sd.) S. H. DENNIS (*Member*).
 (Sd.) L. GARRETT (*Member*).
 (Sd.) E. H. YOUNG (*Member*).
 (Sd.) H. H. ENGLISH (*Member*).

Mr. Garrett explained that there were one or two subjects which had not yet been settled, therefore did not appear in the Report of the Executive Committee. One of these items was the selling of Tea by the Indian Tea Cess Committee.

Mr. Browne then spoke on the subject. He associated himself with the Anamallai Association's protest to the effect that the price it had been decided to charge was far too low, and that it could not possibly be maintained. Therefore, the net result of the propaganda would be to educate the public to a tea priced at a rate S. India could not maintain, but which Java and Sumatra do. The propaganda therefore, for lack of forethought, appeared to be entirely in favour of our rivals in the market. The opinion of the Meeting was taken, and was found to be unanimously in favour of the Anamallai Association's views as put forward in their letter No. 1070.

Rates of Cart-hire between District and Coast.—Mr. Garrett said that the other subject to which he referred was the rates of cart-hire on produce despatched to the Port. These he claimed to be high, higher in fact than now pertaining in other districts. Certain instances were given, and appeal was made to the Association to try and fix a rate for such transport.

Mr. Dennis remarked that the Mysore Association's area was extremely widespread. This meant that in certain areas factors might apply which in another area were not applicable. The state of roads varied, some areas were assured return loads on all carts sent down, others were not so fortunate, in fact the question was so wide that he could not see how the Association itself could take any definite view. The idea, however, was very sound, and he suggested this was rather a matter for areas to decide for themselves, and do what they could to reduce their charges under this heading.

It was left to the various areas to do what they could in the matter.

Reports of District Board Members

Hussan.—The election formalities were not yet completed. Therefore there was no report from this District.

Kadur.—Mr. Middleton outlined the work of the District Board since the last Meeting. The chief item of interest as far as the Association was concerned being the proposal to divert money from the Railway Cess to the Roads of the District. He explained that the matter had been discussed for one day by the Board, and that many seemed to be in favour of the proposal. The matter had been postponed until a later date, when the Mysore Railway Agent would be able to be present, and give details as to the possible traffic, returns, etc., of the proposed Kadur-Chickmagalur Railway.

Accounts.—The Audited Accounts of the year 1930-31 were placed on the table.

After questions the Accounts were passed.

Reports of the Delegates attending the U.P.A.S.I. Annual General Meeting.—In the absence of Mr. Newcome, who was attending a Meeting of the Mysore Representative Assembly on behalf of the Association, Mr. Fowke read the reports of the Delegates.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Garrett for having attended the Meeting as an additional Delegate.

The Coffee-Growers' Association.—The Chairman welcomed the Delegates of the Coffee Growers' Association, and asked them to speak on their subject.

Mr. Hill, on behalf of the Coffee Growers' Association Sub-Committee of the Coorg and Mysore Associations, when introducing the matter, asked the Meeting to first review the whole position of the Coffee market.

Brazil is the first consideration. Conditions in that country are none too good, in fact the future is uncertain. There is no guarantee that the existing conditions will carry on, a breakdown in which would result in as much as 20,000,000 bags of Coffee being thrown on a market already in a low state. It needs no great imagination to foresee the result of such a happening.

Whilst admitting that the Brazilian market does not entirely control the prices realized for our Coffee, it must be granted that the state of that market reflects on our prices. A general collapse in the Brazilian prices must react disastrously on our produce.

Another and very great development which directly influences the Indian Coffee market is the increasing amount of East African Coffee sent to the United Kingdom.

This new country has gone ahead wonderfully. Since 1922 Kenya has slightly more than doubled its acreage, whilst the other colonies have gone ahead fast. A brief reflection will make it obvious that the production of East African Coffee has not yet reached its apex.

An examination of the crop statistics of that country is instructive. In 1913, the total output of Coffee from East Africa was approximately 2,000 tons. In 1930 this had grown to approximately 30,000 tons.

The quality is appreciated, and in the question of marketing East Africa has shown energy and initiative. The advertising in England has undoubtedly been done well, and has borne good results. This is now being extended to America.

From these reflections it is apparent that the time has come for South India to do something to help itself. Our position on the London Market cannot be taken with the assurance of a few years ago. In order to ensure our position we have to look for another outlet for our produce, and the very obvious one is at our doors. India shows an increasing consumption of coffee, and it is up to us to supply and extend the demand.

The Coffee-Growers' Association Sub-Committee has drawn up a Scheme in collaboration with Messrs. Imperial Chemicals (India) Limited, copies of which have already been sent to all members.

By this it will have been seen that the present idea is to start in a small way, and build. Coffee will first be sold raw; later, as the support, organization and market develop, coffee will be sold roasted and ground. The building up of the whole organization will take some little time but is a sound policy to adopt.

The Scheme is subject to amendment as things develop. At present it represents a beginning of what is hoped will be a means of finding a ready and handy market, and one which will enable us to reap a greater share of the profit margin.

In conclusion Mr. Hill entreated those present to support the scheme, and to determine to make it a success.

(Applause).

The Sub-Committee then invited and replied to questions.

Mr. Iron explained that the original scheme had been reluctantly dropped as it was considered to be too big for a beginning. The idea now was first to concentrate on the Madras Presidency, and then to build up a wider market.

The Chairman considered this a sound move. He quoted an American contention in regards the propaganda of Tea in that country. The argument being that had Tea been worked in one definite area first and then extended, results with the same expenditure would have been greater than in the present case.

Mr. Iron then asked all members to make every effort to enlist the support of their Indian Planting neighbours.

Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. English, then moved the following resolution :—

'That this Association favours the formation of the Coffee-Growers' Association as laid down in the circulated Draft Scheme.'

Carried

Coffee Scientific Department.—Mr Garrett spoke on the proposal to extend the Coffee Scientific Staff.

He was of opinion that our present share of Coffee Research work was inadequate, and that the time was ripe for an increase in this direction. Dr. Coleman's genius for directing Research work has been of invaluable service to the Coffee Industry in the past, and the best way to extend that work still further would be to consult Dr. Coleman. Dr. Coleman cannot be expected to remain with us always, and we ought to take every opportunity of availing ourselves of his services.

There was another point in this connection, viz., that any intensified Research Work on Coffee now would put us in a much better position to take advantage of boom in Coffee in the future.

The financial side would have to depend upon the nature of Dr. Coleman's suggestions. He considered we ought to be prepared for a re-imposition of a Coffee Cess of from 3 to 4 annas per acre, and that the U. P. A. S. I. should be asked for any appropriation from their Reserves to meet the balance of our requirements.

However, he wished to move the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Young :—

'This Association considers that the time has now come to take steps to further the progress of Scientific Research Work in Coffee, and requests the Executive Committee of the U. P. A. S. I. to approach Dr. Coleman for favour of his suggestions as to how this might best be put into effect.'

Carried

Roads.—Mr. Garrett spoke *re* the surface of the Vastara-Koppa Road. This road is in a truly appalling condition and has been so for a long time. If immediate attention is not given, there is a very grave danger that the road will degenerate during the coming Coffee Crop season into such a condition that it will be fit for cart traffic only.

Other users of the Road corroborated Mr. Garrett's remarks and the Secretary was instructed to take up the matter with the Executive Engineer, Kadur District.

Hassan District—Animahal-Hanbalu Road, miles 1 to 4.—Mr. Middleton again drew the attention of the Association to the hopeless state of some sections of this road. The section of which complaints had been made at the last Meeting was in an even worse condition. Most car differentials scrape bottom, and there was one instance of a bus taking two hours to negotiate one furlong. The Secretary was instructed to again approach the Department in the matter.

Diversion of Railway Cess Money to the Roads of the Kadur District.—Mr. Mathias spoke on the subject. He stated how he had, at the invitation of the President, attended the District Board Meeting, and spoken on the subject of diverting Railway money to Roads.

He moved the following resolution seconded by Mr. Middleton :—

'That a deputation consisting of three Members of this Association, including the Chairman, and three Members of the Malnaad Land Holders' Association, also including the President, wait on the Dewan of Mysore and the President, the Kadur District Board, to urge for the diversion of funds from the accumulated Railway Cess to the roads of the Kadur District.'

Carried

Roads—General.—The Chairman spoke on the lack of repairs works throughout the Planting areas. Many sections in a deplorable condition were apparently to receive no attention. He moved the following resolution from the Chair :—

'That the Secretary be instructed to ascertain the amount which will probably lapse on the Roads of the Hassan and Kadur Districts during the current season.'

Carried

Saklaspur-Marnahalli Road.—Mr. Beadnell enquired what had been done about the dangerous condition of certain sections of the Saklaspur-Marnahalli Road. He had spoken in the last Meeting about this state, but there was no improvement.

The Secretary replied that he had written the Chief Engineer in Mysore, who had passed the matter to the Executive Engineer, the Hassan District, for attention. Further, the Executive Committee had mentioned the matter to the Supervising Engineer when in consultation with him.

Mr. Beadnell then moved the following resolution seconded by Mr. Young :—

'That the Secretary shall again bring to the notice of the Executive Engineer, Hassan District, the appalling condition between miles 146 and 149 of the Saklaspur-Marnahalli Road. Further, inform that Officer that unless immediate repairs are taken in hand, coffee transport will have to be diverted to other routes.'

Carried

Read Letter from the Secretary, the U. P. A. S. I., in re the Estates Staff's Association of Southern India. The Secretary was instructed to circulate copies of the letter to all Members.

Date of next meeting.—The next Meeting was fixed for the third of January, 1932.

With a vote of thanks to the President and Members of the Kadur Club for the use of the room, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

E. W. FOWKE,
Chairman.

C. C. COUCHMAN,
Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE
INDIAN TEA CESS COMMITTEE
The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.

REF. NO. 1286.

DEAR SIR,

I am enclosing herewith an extract from the Minutes of a General Committee Meeting of this Association held on 2nd instant, which may prove of interest to readers of your paper.

The extract from the minutes is a very brief precis of what was told us by Messrs. McHatton and Orton, and the information given did much to clear up misunderstandings in connection with the work of the I.T.C.C.

The very alarming increase in the sale of imitation and adulterated teas and measures taken to combat this traffic was fully explained to the meeting.

We are informed that the Representatives of the Indian Tea Cess Committee wish the fullest publicity given to their work, and want District Associations to take more interest in their propaganda measures, and also in their efforts to suppress sales of adulterated or imitation Teas.

If invitations are given to the Indian Tea Cess Committee Representatives, inviting them to address District Associations, much more valuable publicity and enthusiasm as regards the work of the I.T.C.C. would be fostered, and we commend this to all Associations.

Yours etc.,

C. F. CLARK.

MUDIS, } C. F. CLARK,
November 7, 1931. } Honorary Secretary, Anamallai Planters' Association.

**Extract from Minutes of a General Committee Meeting of the Anamallai Planters' Association held at the Anamallai Club on Monday, 2nd November, 1931
at 2-30 p.m.**

'Indian Tea Cess Committee.'—Mr. McHatton addressed the meeting on the work of the Indian Tea Cess Committee in South India, and explained the working of the Tea propaganda scheme.

On the question of a low price level being established by the sale of tea at the price fixed by the I.T.C.C. Mr. McHatton expressed his opinion as there being little danger of a low price level being fixed, and pointed out that when tea drinking became established in any area the purchasers of tea very soon became capable of appreciating good quality teas, and would pay for such teas.

Mr. McHatton also dealt with the cost of bulking and distributing, and was able to show that costs of the I.T.C.C. were very reasonable when compared with the costs of distributing a well-known breakfast food whose charges—it is uncertain if propaganda is included—amounted to 4 times the original value of the food.

On the question of a Co-operative Selling Agency being formed, Mr. McHatton explained that a similar scheme for North India is now being considered in London, and advised that we await developments, and the experience gained from the North India scheme.

Mr. McFlatton favoured the idea of a market for tea being established in South India.

On the subject of a Committee being formed in South India to co-operate with the Indian Tea Cess Committee's representatives, Mr. McHatton said that the formation of such a Committee would, he thought, receive very favourable consideration in Calcutta.

Mr. McHatton considered that the activities of the Indian Tea Cess Committee were not widely enough known and hoped to put District Associations in possession of more details in future.

Mr. Orton spoke on the alarming increase of the sale of imitation and adulterated teas, and gave instances of the traffic in such teas. The steps being taken to counteract the business was explained to meeting, but while the Food Adulteration Act is applicable to so few towns, difficulties in suppressing trading in spurious teas are very great.

Mr. Robinson expressed himself as having the greatest admiration of the work of the I.T.C.C. and their having introduced tea to Districts where tea drinking was unknown, and where now large quantities of tea are drunk.

The Chairman thanked the representatives of the Indian Tea Cess Committee for attending the meeting, and for having so fully explained the working of the propaganda scheme.'

Price of Tea

Referring to Mr. Pinckney's letter of October 8 that appeared in our last issue, dated November 7, we publish below a further letter from him, dated October 15, together with Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co.'s reply to the three Tea Producers' Association's letter, both of which appeared in 'The Times' of October 7 and 5 respectively.

A further joint letter from the three Tea Associations in reply to Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co.'s rejoinder on this subject appeared in 'The Times' of October 14 and is also reproduced with the other Correspondence.—Editor.

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

Further to my letter of last week, I enclose a cutting from *The Times* Newspaper of a rejoinder from Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co., and send you under separate cover a copy of *The Times* of yesterday's date, which gives a further letter from the Associations, and you will also notice an advertisement in favour of Empire-Grown Tea, which emanates from the office where the Associations' organization is carried on. If you can find space to insert all this material in your issue, I think it would be an advantage in order that local interests may know what is being done.

HIDDEN COTTAGE,
HUNTERFORD,
BERKS, October 15, 1931.

Yours, etc.,
J. R. H. PINCKNEY.

MESSRS. BROOKE BOND & CO.'S LETTER FROM 'THE TIMES' OF OCTOBER 7, 1931

To The Editor of 'The Times'

Sir,—The letter from the Empire tea growers published in your issue of Wednesday calls for some rejoinder from us.

The stock of tea in this country as calculated by your correspondents is that in the public warehouses. The figure quoted by us is what we believe to be the total stock including that in private warehouses and in course of distribution. It is common knowledge that enormous quantities

of tea have been withdrawn from the public warehouses during recent months owing to the possibility of a duty being re-imposed. The average cost of tea rises and falls seasonally, being governed very much by the quality of the offerings. It is the lower grades that respond to speculative demand, and it was to this class we referred. In the last five weeks common tea rose from 4½d. to 7d. per lb. In drawing attention to the large increase in the imports of Java and Sumatra tea into this country, it should be pointed out that a great part of this is grown by British capital, and any crippling impost would mean heavy loss to British investors. It is also necessary to emphasize the fact that short of prohibition of importation, the residue of the foreign-grown tea must still come to London after other markets have bought their requirements.

The statement we issued last week was merely drawing attention to an unhealthy market position. We felt that the rise in Mincing-lane prices was not justified at this time, and that if this rise continued, it would mean an advance in the retail prices of lower grade blends—the very thing the Government wish delayed as long as possible.

Every one sympathizes with those growers who are losing money, but it is not the transient prosperity of boosted markets they require—it is the whole industry on a sound basis, with consumption approximating production.

Yours, etc.,
J. R. F. MCKAY,
Director, Brooke Bond & Co., Limited.

**A FURTHER JOINT LETTER FROM THE THREE TEA ASSOCIATIONS
IN REPLY TO THE ABOVE**

To the Editor of 'The Times'

DEAR SIR,

The far-reaching importance of the issues involved emboldens us to ask you to be kind enough to grant us space to deal with the rejoinder of Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co. to our letter published in your issue of the 7th instant.

In the first place, we should like to draw attention to the implications of the plea put forward on behalf of the producers of Dutch-grown tea. Brooke Bond & Co., through their director, Mr. J. R. F. McKay, contend that a great part of this tea is grown by British capital, and he says that 'any crippling impost would mean heavy loss to British investors.' It is, however, perfectly well known in the trade that the bulk of the capital employed in tea production in Java and Sumatra is foreign, and further that the amount of British capital so utilized is very small compared with the enormous investments of such capital in India and Ceylon. Yet Brooke Bond & Co. contend, in effect, that the producers of tea by foreign labour in the Colonial Possessions of a country which levies a duty of 7d. per pound on tea imports should receive the same consideration and treatment as the producers of tea grown within the Empire with the co-operation of British capital and the labour of British subjects.

The importance of the Empire tea industry both to this country and to the countries of production was emphasized in the recent Report of the Imperial Economic Committee on Tea, and the Committee pointed out that the quantities, varieties and qualities of tea now produced within the Empire are such that blends to suit almost any taste and almost any purse can be maintained from Empire-grown teas alone.

The benefits conferred upon India by the tea industry are enormous. Testimony to this effect was provided in a striking passage in the Report, published in 1928, of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India, presided over by the Marquis of Linlithgow, see page 598, and the Commissioners concluded by expressing the view that the benefits which India owed to the planting community had not been adequately realized by the general public. The same applies equally to Ceylon.

In regard to the price of tea, Brooke Bond & Co. evade our assertion, which cannot be controverted, that large quantities of tea of Empire origin are being sold in Mincing Lane at prices which do not cover the actual cost of production, and they suggest that the Government is anxious to delay an advance in the retail price of this tea. As we showed in our previous letter Empire tea-growers have no control over prices either wholesale or retail. But the inference to be drawn from Brooke Bond & Co.'s statement is that the Government is opposed to British tea producers receiving a return on their capital and enterprise. This we cannot believe. Even if wholesale prices advance, there should be no reason for increasing retail prices.

The truth is, and no sophistry can weaken it, there is no justification whatever for the dumping of Dutch-grown tea on our market at a time when the Empire industry is suffering heavy losses and many British tea companies are threatened with ruin, largely owing to the incursion of foreign tea, which pays no duty and brings no corresponding advantage either to this country or to the Empire at large.

Brooke Bond & Co. insinuate that producers are 'boosting' the market. There is no justification whatever for their insinuation, for, as we pointed out in our previous letter, the bulk of the tea is sold by public auction and prices are determined by the distributing houses.

Yours, etc.,

R. GRAHAM,
Chairman, Indian Tea Association (London).

W. SHAKSPEARE,
President, Ceylon Association in London.

LONDON,
October 13, 1931.

J. R. H. PINCKNEY,
Chairman, South Indian Association in London.

PRICES FOR SOUTH AND NORTH INDIA TEAS

[Correspondence on this subject that has appeared in our last two issues, has aroused considerable interest, and "Fine Dust's" letter, in reply to Pekoe, is reproduced below.]

Prices for South Indian Teas

To the Editor of the 'Madras Mail'

SIR,

I was very interested to read "Pekoe's" letter in your issue of October 28.

I see he adopts the view that the very low average for South Indian Teas in London is due to the long drought experienced in South India this year. But before one accepts the view that this alone accounts for the serious differences between South Indian and North Indian averages, it

would be interesting to know whether North India experienced ideal tea-making weather during the time when the difference between their average and the South India average was 6d. per lb.? If it turns out that North India too was experiencing a drought for a period during which they got 6d. more than South India, then we are up against some element present making for the 'downing' of South Indian teas.

If any one in touch with North Indian tea districts would give information in the *Madras Mail* bearing on this important point, it would be of great interest.

I honestly do not think that throughout this year South Indian teas have been so inferior to North Indian teas as to merit the very serious difference in prices.

There is, of course, good reason for all "Pekoe" writes in regard to the difficulty of making quality teas in drought conditions, but even allowing for this, the difference in prices is very disturbing and unaccountable. Brokers' reports on South Indian teas generally a few weeks back were that quality was good, and in no way inferior to the average of North India.

The averages for sales of October 8 were as follows :

Weekly averages :

South India 10·42d. per lb.

North India 1s. 2·34d. per lb.

Ceylon 1s. 5·66d. per lb.

Averages for period January 1 to October 8, 1931.

South India 10·93d. per lb.

North India 11·89d. per lb.

Ceylon 1s. 3d. per lb.

Java 7·4d. per lb.

All Teas. 1s. 0·17d. per lb.

"Pekoe" asks for my ideas regarding the N.-E. Monsoon this year. Owing to the vagaries of the weather, prophecies are dangerous, but the signs are that we shall have a good N.-E. Monsoon without the deluges which swept away the Railway last year, and if the weather follows precedent as we have had a bad S.-W. Monsoon, the N.-E. Monsoon should go well into January next year.

The average for the month of September in Coonoor is 6·08 inches, as against which we have gauged 3·61 inches. The average of October is 12·62 inches as against which we have gauged this year 9 inches. Compare this with last year's terrible rainfall for October—30·60 inches. From January 1 to October 30 this year we gauged 26·95 inches, the average for the period being 43·92 inches.

COONOOR,
October 30, 1931.

FINE DUST

'The Difference'—(continued)

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'

DEAR SIR,

The letter by 'Profits' in the last issue of the *Chronicle* aims at inducing people, both Planters and Agents, to look at profits per acre and not only half way, i.e., that our job ends at production costs and yield per acre.

In agreeing with such an outlook, I would put in a plea that labour rules governing rates for piece work and wages for day labour should be standards for the district or area and not rigid rules.

To devise a set of rules to allow for every contingency is not possible. To adhere to a set of absolutely fixed rules in hard cases or in exceptional circumstances may very easily work to the detriment of both cooly and estate. Who will blame the man who judges such cases on their merits and acts accordingly to the benefit of both? Instances can be multiplied in every case and for every rule.

Base your wages and rates on a standard and not on a rule and this difficulty disappears.

There is some impish delight in getting round rules there is none in doing so to a standard that is flexible. I think a well drawn up standard or convention will be much more carefully adhered to than any set of rules ever can be. If anybody can abandon the standard and still produce a better tea cheaper, or rather make a bigger profit, then he is right and the standard is wrong. In doing so he takes a fair risk and is likely to answer for it if he fails; in consequence, it is not likely to be indulged in without careful thought and discussion.

'Profits' complaint that we lose heavily during a rush by insufficient factory accommodation is true up to a point only. The outlay incurred and the interest on capital and depreciation is considerable and while I agree that if good tea could be turned out under these more favourable factory conditions the outlay would be well worth it, the fact remains that owing to very rapid growth the quality of the tea remains poor however carefully plucked and manufactured. It then becomes a matter of arithmetic whether the outlay is covered by the increased value of the tea made during the worst of the rush, which is, say, 1½d., though I should say 1d. is nearer the mark.

A factory that can accommodate and manufacture the average daily yield of the crop that is to be expected during the two worst months, without attempting to be able to deal in comfort with the maximum week would go as near this ideal as is economically sound?

If the above is correct, which I think it is, we are not much nearer a solution of the problem, which lies in the fact that we annually ruin our name on the London market by flooding it with poor quality teas from which it takes about four or five months to recover every year, and is perhaps largely responsible for any bad name S. India may have.

Here is work for the Tea Cess Committee and the Scientific Department. The latter to find out some method of keeping tea for, say, nine months and the former to sell it. This tea is unsuitable for London and is suitable for India where a cheap plain tea is wanted.

A co-operative packeting and selling agency run with the help of the T. C. C. could surely dispose of some 4 or 5 million lbs. of our rush teas, if we can store them without loss of quality, so spreading the sales over some nine months.

It disposes of the present bugbear of probably selling tea at a loss, it stimulates the consumption in India which is what we want, preserves our name and avoids this flooding of the market in London with teas that it has no use for.

KARAMALAI ESTATE,
VALPARAI P. O.
November 21, 1931.

Yours etc.,
A. W. F. MILLS.

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Mark	Best prices realized.		Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.			
	Pkgs	Price		District	Week ending Oct. 22, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 22, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 22, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, Oct. 22 and 29, 1931, respectively.)				N. India	s. d. 1 0·91	s. d. 0 11·99	s. d. 1 2·73
				S. India	a 0 9·99	b 0 10·92	c 1 2·50
				Ceylon ..	1 6·15	1 3·12	1 6·54
				Java ..	0 8·87	0 7·45	0 10·07
				Sumatra	0 7·41	0 7·64	0 11·18
				Nyassa- l a n d .	0 6·73	0 6·91	0 9·25
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —		s. d.		Total..	d 1 1·28	e 1 0·23	f 1 3·23
Stanmore	144	1 3½ (29)					
Thoni Mudi	144	1 3½ (22)					
Nalla Mudi	168	1 2 (29)					
Anai Mudi	204	1 1 (29)					
Velenie	173	0 11½ (29)					
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i>				District	Week ending Oct. 29, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 29, 1931	January 1 to Oct. 29, 1930
Fairfield	80	1 4½ (22)					
Carady Goody	96	1 14 (29)					
Glendale	96	1 0½ (29)					
*Glenmary	96	0 11½ (22)					
Munja Mullay	117	0 11½ (22)					
Do.	186	0 11½ (29)					
<i>Twyford and Ashley Estates</i> —							
Vembanaad	120	0 11½ (29)					
(c) <i>Kanan Devans</i> —							
*Yellapatty	72	1 8½ (22)					
Gundumallay	150	1 7 (29)					
Chundavurrai	98	1 3½ (22)					
Vagavurrai	134	1 3½ (22)					
Chokanad	80	1 2½ (22)					
Nullatanni	54	1 2½ (22)					
*Gundumallay	161	1 2 (22)					
Sevenmallay	111	1 1½ (22)					
*Surianalle	60	1 1½ (22)					
Munaar	151	1 0½ (22)					
Upp. Surianalle	83	1 0½ (22)					
Periavurrai	205	0 11½ (22)					
*Lockhart	108	0 11½ (22)					
Pullivassal	105	0 11½ (29)					
Talliar	66	0 11 (29)					
(d) <i>Nilgiris</i> —							
Prospect	276	1 7 (29)					
Ibex Lodge	105	1 6 (29)					
*Bhawani	137	1 1 (29)					
(e) <i>Wynaad</i> —							
Perengodda	30	1 4½ (29)					
Kardoora	57	1 1½ (29)					
*Tanga Mulla	149	1 0 (29)					
Arrapetta	120	0 11½ (29)					
Pootoomulla	138	0 11½ (29)					
*Tanga Mulla	72	0 11 (22)					

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below.—

a 6,735 b 252,743 c 284,401
 d 93,205 e 3,506,831 f 3,361,611
 g 6,063 h 258,806 i 290,468
 j 73,345 k 3,580,176 l 3,439,533

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, November 17, 1931, was 3½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, November 14, 1931, were 75,256 tons, a decrease of 1,067 tons on November 7, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, November 14, 1931, were 55,933 tons, a decrease of 351 tons on November 7, 1931, inventory.



Built by Dunlop

For Buses & Trucks —

*A New Range of
Heavy Duty Giants
— built by Dunlop*

30 x 5 H.D. Giant.

32 x 6 ,, ,,

34 x 7 ,, ,,

AND FULL RANGE OF SIZES.

Special Improvements:—

1. **Oversize Section**—a larger tyre to provide greater security from risk of damage by overloading and also to increase riding comfort.
2. **Thicker Tread**—of compounded rubber which resists the cutting effect of stones, the effect of high temperature, and the wear due to fierce acceleration and braking.
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other Heavy Duty Tyres.*

For further particulars apply

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD., MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

II. The Madras Market

For the Fortnight ending Thursday, November 19, 1931

The following report on the Madras Market is made available to us through the courtesy of Messrs. Huson, Tod & Co.:—

Planting.—During the fortnight under review, this Section had a fair turnover, and high grown teas have attracted some attention. *Devasholas* and *United Nilgiris Ordy.* and Debs. have all had markings at slightly easier rates. Periakaramalais Participating and non-Participating shares have now equal rights and prices may meet at possibly a little over Rs. 20. Vellamalais had a dealing at Rs. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. In Sterling Rubbers Malayalam have again improved to 9s./9d. There was no interest in Rupee Rubber Scrips.

Sterling Companies	Paid up Value	Middle Price			+ or - on the last fortnight
		£	s.	d.	
1. Kerala Calicut Estates	...	£ 1	0	1 6	...
2. Linggi Plantations	...	£ 1	0	7 6	...
3. Malayalam Plantations	...	£ 1	0	9 9	+ 1s.
4. Nilgiri Plantations	...	£ 1	1	7 6	...
5. Poonmudi Tea and Rubber	...	2s.	0	0 10	...
6. Pulangode Rubber	...	£ 1	0	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
7. Rani Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	3 3	+ 9d.
8. Rubber Plantations Investment	...	£ 1	0	15 6	+ 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
9. Travancore Rubber	...	£ 1	0	6 3	...

Rupee Companies		Buyers	Sellers
Cochin Malabars Rs. 10	...	...	1
Cochins Rs. 15	...	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Devasholas Rs. 9	...	5	6
Haileyburia Tea Estates Rs. 10	..	..	24
Kalasas Rs. 15	..	..	Noml.
Malankaras Rs. 30	..	15	19
Nelliampathy Hills Rs. 10	..	..	Noml.
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	..	100
Nilgiri Neerugundi Estates Ordy. Rs. 10	..	..	2
" 7 per cent. Prefs. Rs. 100	..	..	90
Peermades Ordy. Rs. 10	..	14	16
Peria Karamalais Rs. 15	..	23 Noml.	24 Noml.
Perasholas Rs. 10	..	8 as.	12 as.
Periyars Rs. 10	..	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thodapuzhas Rs. 10	..	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thirumbadis Rs. 10	..	..	3
United Nilgiris Rs. 100	..	70	75
Vellamalais (Rs. 15)	..	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10

III. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity catalogued on November 10, 1931, amounted 2,350,862 lbs. There was a fair demand for low grown teas, but otherwise the market was lower, and there were many withdrawals of good Brokens. NUWARA ELIYA AND MATURATA. Quality was not equal to previous offerings and selection was somewhat limited. Prices were generally lower, particularly for Broken grades. HIGH GROWN. Broken teas were the weakest feature of the market and there were many withdrawals. Leaf grades were in fair request but at a lower level of price consequent upon the decline in quality.

MEDIUM GROWN. These descriptions met a generally irregular and easier market and there were many withdrawals of Broken grades. **Low GROWN.** Broken Orange Pekoes were in fair demand at slightly lower rates. Broken Pekoes, however, were a stronger market and tended rather firmer. Orange Pekoes were easier, and declined 2 to 3 cents, while the relative Pekoes remained about steady. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS**—were fairly well competed for, but at a lower range of prices.

South Indian Tea in Auction of November 3, 1931, obtained the following prices :—

Estates			Total lbs.	Average
Kanniamallay	...	..	16,200	59
Manalaroo	...	...	5,110	43
Kokayar	...	...	4,830	40
Malaikot	...	...	3,302	39

RUBBER.—There was a poor and rather irregular demand for the 126 tons offered at the Auction held on November 5, 1931. Contract quality Sheet of which there was only a little on offer showed a drop of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent at $-12\frac{1}{2}$. Fair and Off sorts were not in much demand and were $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ cents lower respectively. There were only a few parcels of Contract Crepe on offer which sold at a quarter cent below last week's rates and Off and Mottled sorts were very irregular but were only $\frac{1}{2}$ cent cheaper. All grades of Scrap Crepes were well competed for and sold at last week's rates. There was a better enquiry for all grades of Scrap which showed an all-round improvement of half cent.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

November 1, 1931, to November 14, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ..	5.27	5.28	10.55
2. Kalkuratty.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	25. Kotagiri ..	7.89	6.37	14.26
3. Kallar B'dge.	5.49	5.04	10.53	26. Oo'acamund ..	1.65	2.42	4.07
4. Koney ...	3.04	4.52	7.56	27. Yercaud ..	3.16	5.76	8.92
5. Pattanapura.	3.20	4.38	7.58	28. Mango Range ..	3.77	4.75	8.52
6. Kumbazha ..	2.83	2.07	4.90	29. Devala ..	5.47	N.R.	N.R.
6a Peravanthan.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devarshola ..	1.65	N.R.	N.R.
6b Aneikolam...	5.20	4.16	9.36	31. CALICUT ..	0.39	1.99	2.38
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ..	7.11	2.56	9.67
8. Twyford ...	7.27	5.39	12.66	33. Vayitri ..	2.35	5.24	7.59
9. V'periyar ...	4.27	3.31	7.58	34. Manantoddi...	1.84	1.48	3.32
10. Kelaar ...	3.95	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ..	5.67	2.43	8.10
11. Chittuvurrai.	2.61	4.16	6.77	36. Sidapur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. BODI'KANUR	1.54	3.90	5.44	37. Ghattied Hulla ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	1.76	0.76	2.52	38. Pollibetta ..	4.33	1.45	5.78
14. Mooply ...	3.80	2.08	5.88	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	4.17	N.R.	N.R.	40. Saklaspur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	3.33	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadapane ..	1.74	5.66	7.40
17. POLLACHIE	2.52	5.76	8.28	42. Balehonnur...	1.40	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy ...	5.82	N.R.	N.R.	43. Merthsub'gey ..	2.32	2.34	4.66
19. Karapara ...	2.70	3.05	5.75	44. Kelagur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
20. Puliengode..	6.98	4.55	11.43	45. Durgabettta ..	1.37	1.56	2.93
21. Nilambur ..	7.30	2.96	5.26	46. MANGALORE ..	1.27	1.78	3.05
22. Naduvattam	0.60	2.12	2.81	47. MADRAS ..	9.63	4.48	14.00
23. Nilgiri Peak	0.97	2.40	3.37				

N. R. No Return received.

Planters' Chronicle



Vol. XXVI, No. 25]

December 5, 1931

[Price As. 8

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. James Alexander Nicolson, ^{of} Kalaar Estate, High Range, Travancore, age 36, which took place, after a short illness, on November 22, 1931, at Munnar.

Obituary Mr. Nicolson was a man who was extremely popular and well liked in every circle. Possessed of a quiet and genial disposition, he was one whom we can ill-afford to lose, and his many friends will feel a real sense of loss at his demise at so early an age.

Our deep sympathy and that of all our Readers will be extended to his widow in her cruel bereavement.

WE are glad to announce the issuing of a Government Order to the effect that they are in agreement with the Board of Revenue, that no charge for water in Shevaroys District should be levied for the use of water taken from the streams in the planting areas on the Shevaroys in the Salem District which have been included in the holdings of the planters and assessed to land revenue accordingly.

It will be recalled that a similar G. O. was issued in April last with reference to the charge for water in the Nilgiri-Wynaad and Wynaad districts and published in the *Chronicle*, dated April 25, 1931.

ALTHOUGH the New National Government has only been in power a short while, it is evident that Empire Trade has early received its careful consideration, and it is a matter of great import to Empire Trade planters that Mr. Neville Chamberlain (Chancellor of the Exchequer) in his statement replying to Sir William Davison, who asked whether early steps would be taken to grant preference to Empire teas,

confirmed that His Majesty's Government are fully aware of the grave position of British planters, and that though at present a definite statement cannot be made, there is every reason to hope and presume they will grant preference to British teas.

This question will undoubtedly be followed up by marketing and producing organizations in England with a view to balancing the present unequal position between British and Dutch teas, the latter being allowed to pour into Great Britain without limit whilst British teas are kept out of Holland by a 7d. per lb. duty.

Some action to benefit British Empire tea therefore seems certain, and in this connection the Empire Marketing Board deserves every encouragement and support in the efforts they are making to further the buying of Empire products throughout Great Britain. On November 16 last, the Empire Marketing Board commenced to launch throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland an intensive campaign in favour of 'Buying British' from the Empire at Home and Overseas.

Every retail trader in the United Kingdom is being approached by the Board to assist in a practical way, to make this bid for the furtherance of British trade and employment, an outstanding success.

Every device for displaying in retail shops throughout the country the special advertising material, has been exploited, and there is no doubt that the public today are more sympathetic than ever before to the 'Buy British' appeal.

Here is a chance for all sections of the trade as the new campaign will give a tremendous stimulus to public demand for British and British Empire products.

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NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS

ITALY GROWING TEA IN JAVA

The plantations in Java, the property of the Italian Government, are to yield their first crop this year. This novel departure on the part of Italy is being watched with much interest by tea men, as it indicates a desire by that country to supply its population with reasonably priced tea without the intermediary of the numerous middle-men, now active between the garden and the consumer. Dr. R. Catelani, Director of the plantations, is now making an inspection of the properties. Reports of interviews granted by him are to the effect that prospects for a good yield are most favourable.

LIMITED TEA DEMAND IN ITALY

Dr. Catelani states that, while the Italian people are inclined rather to coffee drinking, he believes that the poorer classes might be induced to drink tea if the price were lower. At present it is a luxury, although upwards of 300,000 pounds are consumed annually.

As regards the demand in Italy's North Africa possessions, Dr. Catelani notes a preference for tea by the Moslem population—in their case green tea. West Africa, however, will drink black tea, but the low buying power of the people makes it difficult to distribute the high quality product there.

The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.

* * *

BRITISH EAST AFRICA COFFEE CROP

In Kenya Colony coffee growing conditions have continued excellent throughout the June quarter and the crop is expected to yield between 13,000 and 14,000 tons, according to a report from American Consul

K. deG. MacVitty, Nairobi. The quality of the crop is better than the average. In fact, if present conditions continue, the crop, both as to quantity and quality, will be a record one.

Growing conditions for coffee in Tanganyika Territory in the districts around Arusha (near Kenya border) have been very good and a fair amount of new acreage has come into bearing, with the result that a record crop of approximately 12,000 tons is expected. The Tanganyika coffee does not, however, realize the same price as that of Kenya.

* * *

INDIA TEA IN COOKING SCHOOLS

With the opening of the cooking school season, the India Tea Bureau in New York is resuming its nation-wide drive of taking the India-tea message to housewives through the schools. This year, it is estimated that some 1,500,000 housewives will hear at first hand of the superiority of India teas and receive instructions on the preparation and serving of tea. In addition, it is estimated that some 8,000,000 housewives will be reached through newspapers affiliated with cooking schools.

The Tea and Coffee Trade Journal.

* * *

SOME RUBBER PAVING ADVANTAGES

It is curious that among the advantages claimed for rubber paving, no mention is ever made of what to the 'man in the street' is its most noticeable point. For some years I have passed twice daily over an experimental area of rubber paving, and have observed that it is always far cleaner than adjoining roadways. There is no tar or grit to be ground into filthy, adhesive mud, and the surface is washed clean by rain in far less time than are other pavements. Added to this is the fact that, although similar in colour to other roads, it does not absorb light to the same extent, and at night is noticeably brighter, writes Col. W. Bonus, Naval and Military Club, in a letter to the *Times*.

* * *

ACROSS EUROPE: A NEW TRUNK ROAD

An important step in the proposed international road from London to Stamboul with simplified customs formalities between London and the Near East, has just been taken in London. Twenty delegates from the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme, representing five million members, were the guests of the Automobile Association to discuss this new project and generally to devise ways of simplifying customs documents for motorists.

When the scheme has been completed, there will be a great new arterial road starting at London and ending at Stamboul, and such formalities as are necessary at each frontier, will be reduced to an absolute minimum. Instead of the usual elaborate inquisition, the proceedings will be as simple as handing a railway ticket to a collector at Victoria. At each frontier there will be a representative of the Alliance whose aim will be to help the motorist. The new trunk road is being well developed in several countries, and existing roads are being improved and altered in others. When it is finished, some years hence, and the simplified customs facilities are in full operation, there will be greater incentive for motorists to go abroad. Because of its work in helping to strengthen international relations, the Alliance has the warm support of the 'statesmen of many countries.—*The British Trade Journal and Export World*, Nov. '31.

RESIDENTIAL TEA SALES

In the country districts within easy reach of the metropolis, one comes across substantial-looking residences displaying framed notices advertising the fact that tea of special quality can be obtained in the packet on the premises. These residential homes whose occupiers have gone into the tea business with a view to adding to shrinking incomes, display their tea agency signs on the verandah or the garden gates. The majority of them claim themselves as 'tea experts' and offer to deliver tea regularly at the lowest prices consistent with high quality. Some of these private merchants are retired tea men, or employees of tea concerns who are enabled to get special terms on bulk tea and are sufficiently versed in trade technique to provide a blend suited to local drinking water.

A PROFITABLE BUSINESS

Quite a few of them do a profitable business in their own districts, since their overhead expenses are kept to a minimum and connections are developed with tea drinking families for a regular supply of the commodity weekly. The novelty of the business lies in the display of the framed tea agency notices suspended from verandah, garden gate or portico.

One cosy brick-built bungalow that was visited outside London recently, was surrounded with rose gardens, and shaded by massive trees. A fluted post, 12 feet high, placed in a corner of the grounds near the roadway displayed a black-framed, glass-covered sign to the effect that packet tea was sold at the bungalow, and deliveries made weekly. A price list was displayed in the frame.

ORDERS AND DELIVERIES

In the same county an elderly grey-bearded tea man displays a large, framed, tea-selling notice on the gable of his porch. He is out every day on a push bike taking orders from houses within a five-mile radius. These tea orders he delivers Saturday, done up in plain wrappers. He has a carrier on the bicycle, and packs the tea (in halves and quarters) into a large portmanteau that is strapped on the carrier. This 'merchant' is bent and aged, but he says he makes a good living and has built up an extensive clientele among the best houses for his special blends. His home is a picturesque one set in spacious lawns and flower beds and would appear to be a criterion of the profits that can be made these days from the retail distribution of tea in the packet.

The low prices at which teas are now available are responsible for a steadily increasing consumption of the commodity in the United Kingdom. Huge distributing concerns like the Co-operative Wholesale Society are paying more and more attention to tea in packet form as a profit-making line. The sales of this concern's teas are now so large that it is estimated around \$2,500,000 will go back to co-op consumers' pockets by way of dividends on tea purchases between now and next March. After allowing for this concession to regular tea purchasers the society's tea trading enterprise is such that it will earn an enviable profit on tea alone, so vast is the tea consuming power of the co-op community.—J. B. in

THE ADULTERATION OF TEA

BY

DR. W. S. SHAW, PH.D., M.Sc., F.I.C.

(Member of the Society of Public Analysts of Great Britain,)

U.P.A.S.I. Tea Scientific Officer

PART I

INTRODUCTION.

Tea is an article which has for a long time been comparatively free from sophistication. In earlier times, however, owing to its relative rarity, it was subject to adulterations of the most flagrant kind, which ultimately demanded the promulgation of two protective Acts during the reigns of George I. and George II.

The first Act (Section 5 or II, George I., cap. 39) intimated that the adulteration of tea by *Terra Japonica* (catechu) leaves other than leaves of tea, or any other ingredients whatever, was punishable by forfeiture and a fine of £100.

The second Act (Section II or 4 George II, cap. 14) came into force in 1731, the preamble of which dealing with tea was as follows:—' And whereas several ill-disposed persons do frequently dye, fabricate, or manufacture very great quantities of sloe leaves, liquorish leaves, and the leaves of tea which have been before used, or the leaves of other trees, shrubs or plants in imitation of tea, and do likewise mix, colour, stain and dye such leaves, and likewise tea, with *Terra Japonica*, sugar, molasses, clay, logwood, and with other ingredients, and do sell and vend the same as true and real tea, to the prejudice of the health of His Majesty's subjects, the diminution of the revenue and to the ruin of the fair trader Vendors of such fictitious tea could be fined at the rate of £10 sterling per pound-weight of the tea.

By the Sale of Food and Drugs Act of 1875, provision was made for the examination of tea by the Customs in Great Britain and the exportation or destruction of very bad consignments.

It is of further interest to note that soon after the abolition of the tea duty in 1929, a few samples of this commodity (tea) purchased in shops were found to contain sand. Presumably the vendors of these 'contaminated' samples were subjected to legal action, and it is still more certain that the authorities were also unaware that a certain amount of sand or grit is an inevitable ingredient of the poorer grades of tea such as the 'dusts'. It was even stated to be sufficient warranty for the imposition of a 'Tea Duty'! This point of contamination with sand is amplified later during a discussion of the practical and chemical aspects of tea from the point of view of its adulteration.

MADRAS ACT III, FOR PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION OF TEA:—

The foregoing relates the methods adopted to protect the consumer of tea in Great Britain. It was necessary to protect the consumer in the countries of origin of the tea. In 1918, therefore, the Government of

Madras introduced Act III, for the Prevention of Adulteration, in which the tentative Rules laid down as the prescribed standards for unadulterated tea were given as follows :—

1. Tea shall be derived exclusively from the leaves and buds of plants of the *Camellia* genus and *Thea* species.
2. Tea shall contain—
 - (i) a proportion of total ash of not less than 4 per cent and not more than 8 per cent;
 - (ii) a proportion of ash soluble in boiling water which is not less than 40 per cent of the total ash determined as in clause (i); and
 - (iii) a proportion of ash which is insoluble in dilute mineral acid not exceeding 1 per cent.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this rule, the ash of tea shall be determined on dry tea (that is, 'tea dried to constant weight at 100 degrees C.)

3 Where a sample of tea does not comply with all the standards specified in Rules 1 and 2 it shall be presumed for the purposes of this Act, until the contrary is proved, that the tea is not genuine.

These rules were confirmed by a Government Order, No. 2097, P. H., dated 26th August 1929. It is, however, regrettable that the rules, before confirmation, were not submitted by the Planters' Association to one with a scientific knowledge of tea, since the rules will be shown to be open to criticism from practical, technological and chemical perspectives. In the following paragraphs, an attempt is made to indicate in what manner the rules are unsatisfactory and inadequate, these criticisms being followed by suggestions indicating on what lines an examination of a tea sample may be directed to demonstrate its suitability or otherwise for sale.

TYPES OF ADULTERANTS USED.

It is not intended to deal with green tea, though this offers a greater scope for adulteration; we are concerned mainly with 'black tea', and in general, the adulterants of 'black tea' may be conveniently arranged under the following heads :—

- (a) Mineral additions used for increasing weight or bulk—such as sand, magnetic iron ore and metallic filings.
- (b) Organic additions for increasing weight or bulk—such as previously infused leaves and the leaves of shrubs other than the tea plant.
- (c) Adulterants used for imparting fictitious strength by increasing the astringency or by deepening the colour of the infusion.

The Rules laid down in Act III given above, would show the presence of sand, if present to any extent, but this is a perfectly innocent ingredient of certain grades of tea. The rules however would not indicate an adulterant of the type giving fictitious colour, since sodium bicarbonate could be added to the extent of 2 per cent and the resulting tea would conform with all the chemical requirements of an unadulterated tea. The rules appear to aim almost entirely at the detection of sand. Further, they give no means for excluding adulteration by the leaves of other shrubs and this is a serious

omission, since in the event of poor teas, conforming to the chemical requirements given in the Act, but obviously deteriorated, it would appear that Analysts fall back on the presence of an adulterant of the type (*b*), and state the tea to be adulterated with foreign leaves—a point referred to later.

CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE RULES PERTAINING TO ADULTERATION OF TEA

It is necessary to take the Rules and subject them to an examination, based on the investigations carried out on tea by the Writer.

RULE 1

NECESSITY FOR INTRODUCING INTERNODAL STALK.

Rule I states that tea shall be derived exclusively from the leaves and buds of *Camellia Thea*. This is intended presumably to ensure the absence of stalk in the manufactured article; or it was based on no appreciation of the manner in which tea is plucked. Since, however, no tea manufactured in North-East India, Ceylon or South India (and presumably in Java and elsewhere) is exclusively made from the leaves and buds, it would follow that according to Rule I all tea is adulterated. In other words, the Rule makes no provision for the internodal stalk existing between the leaves plucked. This stalk is always included in the manufactured article to an appreciable extent, and if present to excess, mechanical means are utilized to reduce it to within more satisfactory limits (Stalk Extractors). Figures obtained by the Writer during the course of investigations on the individual portions comprising the flush taken for manufacture, indicated the presence of at least 15 per cent of internodal stalk in the most carefully plucked flush consisting strictly of a bud, two leaves and the internodal stalk.

NECESSITY FOR DEFINING NUMBER OF LEAVES.

The requirement that tea shall consist of the leaves, in addition to the buds, renders the inclusion of an indefinite number of older and unsuitable leaves derived from the tea plant, a legitimate procedure, and one which most certainly would not be detected by the microscopic and chemical requirements laid down in the Act. A vast amount of prunings is available every year to Planters; there is no use for them apart from their incorporation in the soil to give organic matter; the Rules laid down in the Act would certainly not prevent an unscrupulous planter utilizing such leaves for manufacture, since such tea would give the prescribed chemical characteristics. It is considered that a definite maximum number of leaves should be stated, e.g., three. It might be contended that the detection of the inclusion of, say, five or six leaves would be impracticable or difficult, but it will be shown later that the chemical characteristic of tea, which I have termed the 'iodimetric "totals" equivalent' offers a means of controlling the number of leaves employed.

NECESSITY FOR AMPLIFICATION REGARDING GENUS AND SPECIES OF TEA PLANT.

The statement in Rule 1, that tea shall be derived from plants of 'the *Camellia Genus* and *Thea Species*' presupposes a consistent nomenclature being applied to the tea plant utilized for the manufacture of 'Black' Tea.

Although it is agreed, nowadays, that *Camellia* is the generic name, variations in the name applied to 'species' have been introduced by various authors.

The classification according to the North Indian Botanist, Sir George Watt, includes all tea plants used for the manufacture of tea under '*Camellia Thea*', this species of *Camellia* being subdivided into four distinct varieties. *Camellia Thea*, Link, Var. *Viridis* comprises the greatest number of cultivated members and includes the Assam indigenous, Lushai, Naga, Manipur, Burma and Shan and the Yunnan and China sub-varieties.

Dr. C. P. Cohen Stuart, however, accepts the species' name of *Theifera* conferred by Dyer, and includes the various types of tea plant cultivated for drinking purposes under the name *Camellia Theifera* (Griff), Dyer. Cohen Stuart divides the species into two simple divisions according to the morphological characteristics. Thus he writes 'Men pflegt bei der Teepflanze in der Praxis nur zwei Formenkreise zu unterscheiden: den grossblattrigen Assam-und den kleinblattrigen China-Tee. Fur praktische Zwecke genugt diese rohe Unterscheidung vollkommen, und angesichts der relativ geringen Variabilitat der Teevarietaten ware eine weitere Zerklebung vielleicht auch wissenschaftlich ueberflussig. Dennoch habe ich vorlaufig vier Formengruppen unterschieden'. It will be noted that instead of the varieties and subvarieties of Watt, Cohen Stuart divides the members of *Camellia Theifera* into four groups. The groups vary according to the district from which the tea plant originated.

It is considered, therefore, that it would be advisable to amplify the statement 'Camellia Genus and Thea species' so as to include synonymous terms. At the risk of losing conciseness in the Rule, it is felt that the nomenclature of other authorities should be included.

SUGGESTED MODIFICATION OF RULE I.

A modification of Rule I, which would eliminate the inaccuracies at present existent in it, might be suggested as follows:

'Tea shall be derived from the buds (dormant or developed), a maximum of three full leaves adjacent to the buds, and the accompanying internodal stalk, plucked exclusively from the varieties of the tea plant recognised under the classification of *Camellia Thea* according to Sir George Watt, or *Camellia Theifera* according to Dr. C. P. Cohen Stuart.'

RULE 2

It is proposed dealing with the chemical tests for adulteration in some detail. During the last few weeks, consequential upon the request of a Planter, whose teas were alleged by the Government Analyst to be adulterated, an opportunity was given of analysing these samples which were sent under the seal of the Government Analyst. A corresponding set of freshly manufactured samples from the Planter was obtained and analysed, and the results were compared with similar samples from other estates. These results have been included in a Table appended to this Memorandum, and it becomes necessary to consider the data in the light of adulteration, indicating the inadequacy of Rule 2, as it stands, simultaneously with suggestions as to how it might be modified.

TABLE

	Estate 1	Estate 2	Estate 3	Estate 4			Estate 4 Alleged Adulterated		
	No. 2 Dust.	No. 2 Dust.	No. 2 Dust.	No. 2 Dust.	Big Bulk	Small Bulk	A	B	Big Bulk
Moisture Percentage	... 7.68 6.46 6.30	... 7.62 ... 6.71	... 8.0 8.2 8.2	9.0 6.43 6.25 5.91	8.53 6.35 5.78	7.3 6.00 5.78	8.78 6.69 6.35	7.66 8.36 7.26	6.14 6.46 6.16
Percentage Total Ash. (Direct)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage Total Ash. (Water treatment).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of Total Ash insoluble in dilute HNO ₃ .	0.45	0.88	2.76	0.54	Nil	Nil	0.15	0.36	0.30
Percentage of Total Ash soluble in dilute HNO ₃ .	5.85	5.83	5.44	5.71	5.91	5.78	6.20	6.90	5.86
Percentage sample soluble in boiling water (infusion).	43.30	42.20	42.70	37.30	41.00	43.20	37.50	29.80	35.10
Percentage Ash sample soluble in boiling water (infusion).	9.95	10.75	9.16	9.35	10.90	9.80	13.20	12.25	12.80
Percentage Ash (Soluble)/Total Ash.	68.50	67.80	47.40	55.80	69.20	69.20	64.60	49.40	73.00
Iodimetric 'Totals' in ccs. N/20 per 0.1 Gr. Dry Tea.	21.95	21.00	22.80	16.50	18.50	21.0	14.75	14.05	14.15
Iodimetric 'Precipitation' N/20 per 0.1 Gr. Dry Tea.	17.90	17.50	18.70	13.20	15.10	17.4	11.60	11.90	10.80
Iodimetric 'Filtrate' N/20 per 0.1 Gr. Dry Tea.	4.05	3.50	4.10	3.30	3.40	3.6	3.05	2.15	3.35
Total Manganese, Parts per Million...	211.5	258.0	596.0	235.0	137.5	120.0	204.0	223.0	185.0
Soluble Manganese, Parts per Million.	112.0	132.0	333.0	100.5	74.5	65.5	86.8	58.0	75.0
Percentage soluble: Totals. [Manganese].	53.0	51.2	55.9	43.0	54.1	54.6	42.3	26.0	40.5

W. S. SHAW.

ASH STANDARDS

One is struck by the wide limits of total ash accepted under Rule 2 (a), the limits ranging from 4 to 8 per cent. It offers indeed easy scope for adulteration.

The general procedure adopted in determining the total ash is to incinerate a given weight of the sample for 5 hours in a muffle furnace, cooling and weighing. The employment of this method would invariably give high results in the case of a total ash determination of a tea sample, owing to the high content of Manganese in tea. This Manganese forms a nucleus highly resistant to incineration, a resistance which requires for the complete ashing the employment of a fusion mixture. Hence, in the account of the technique given by the Writer, it has been stated that it is necessary, for complete ashing, to moisten the partially incinerated ash with water, followed by re-incineration. The purpose of this water for complete ashing is to surround the resistant particles with the fusion mixture supplied by the tea itself owing to its high content of Potassium.

ANALYTICAL RESULTS IN RELATION TO RULE 2 (a), 2 (b) AND 2 (c):

A glance at the appended Table indicates that with the exception of the sample from Estate 3, all the samples conform to the 4 per cent to 8 per cent limit demanded by Rule 2 (a) of the Act. It must be noted that the samples alleged by the Government Analyst to be adulterated, conforms with this rule. Again it must be noted that according to this Rule, the sample from Estate 3 would be proscribed. Yet in every practical sense, it is an excellent sample of a No. 2 Dust grade, as evidenced by all other chemical characteristics apart from Ash. In fact, it is easily the best sample included in the list of samples analysed.

It will be shown that the high percentage of ash amounting to 8.2 per cent is entirely due to an unavoidable amount of sand (most certainly not added purposely), this percentage being found to be 2.76 per cent. Correcting for this percentage of sand the sample of No. 2 dust from Estate 3, gives an ash content conforming with that suggested by the Writer as a standard.

Rule 2 (c) permits of a percentage ash insoluble in 'dilute mineral acid' up to 1 per cent. To refer again to the sample from Estate 3, it possesses a percentage of ash insoluble in dilute acid of 2.76. It would therefore be proscribed on this account. But it is due to this high percentage of acid insoluble ash that the 'total ash' amounts to 8.2 per cent. Thus the sample though only at fault according to Rule 2 (c), would also be considered at fault owing to Rule 2 (a). Rules 2 (a) and 2 (c) are dependent entirely on one ingredient of ash, viz. the siliceous material, and it appears, therefore, that Rule 2 (a) is redundant. Accepting the right of prosecution under Rule 2 (c), it is felt that it would only be just to correct for the offending ingredient in coming to a decision regarding prosecution under Rule 2 (a).

This reasoning also applies to Rule 2 (b). By this rule a minimum of 40 per cent of the total ash must be soluble in boiling water, in other words 60 per cent of water-insoluble ash is permissible. Taking the case of Estate 3 again, containing 2.76 of acid insoluble ash, this latter accounts immediately for 33.7 per cent. out of the 60 per cent. permitted. As explained later, a water-soluble ash content was not determined, but 2.76

per cent of insoluble acid ash would be easily sufficient to ensure that the sample would contain less than 40 per cent water-soluble ash. We find, therefore, that the unfortunate sample of Estate 3, although in all important aspects a very good tea, would be proscribed according to the existing Rule 2 not on one account but on three accounts. Although, it would possibly not be significant whether the tea were proscribed on one account or on three accounts, still the latter condition would presumably aggravate the case for prosecution, and, as pointed out, on unfair grounds.

INADEQUACY OF RULE 2 INDICATED BY HYPOTHETICALLY ADULTERATED SAMPLE.

To indicate further the inadequacy of Rule 2 in all departments, it is just necessary to take a hypothetical case of adulteration with either Potassium or Sodium bicarbonate. The true nitric-acid-soluble ash of tea is within close limits 5·8 per cent of the dry tea (see Table). Assume the addition of 2 per cent, by weight, of Potassium bicarbonate in order to produce a fictitious colour in the tea infusion. The 'total Ash' of the adulterated sample would be about 7·7 per cent, the acid-insoluble ash would be less than 1 per cent and the percentage of water-soluble would be greater than 40 per cent of the total. The leaves would be the leaves of *Camellia Thea* (according to Watt), and we would thus have a definitely adulterated tea, against which, according to the Rules, no legal proceedings could be instituted or rather, no evidence could be produced, for taking legal action. This adulteration could be intensified by the addition of previously infused leaves, and the present Rules offer no means of detecting such an addition.

CONCLUSION WITH REGARD TO ASH STANDARDS SET IN RULE 2.

It becomes evident therefore, that Rules 2(a), (b) and (c) are too inter-dependent and the limits set too wide to be of any value whatsoever in determining adulteration of tea. Ash content is, in fact, an unsafe basis for ascertaining sophistication, and the percentage of water-soluble ash is so unsatisfactory a guide as to recommend the Writer in his suggestions for modifications of the Rules to abandon its determination altogether.

ALLEGED ADULTERATED SAMPLES (ESTATE 5, SAMPLES A, B, AND BIG BULK) IN RELATION TO THE RULES.

Let us consider the figures obtained for the samples, alleged by the Government Analyst to have been adulterated. From the existing Rules 2 (a) and (c), they are definitely not adulterated. The percentage of water-soluble ash was not determined, but a correlation of the high percentage of ash of the soluble solids from the adulterated (?) samples with the comparatively low corresponding ones of the fresh samples (of which the water-soluble ash was found to be over 50 per cent) is sufficient to justify the conclusion that the samples were not adulterated even according to Rule 2(b). It is curious therefore that the Government Analyst should postulate the presence of 25 per cent foreign matter (not identified) in these teas, and that a Calicut merchant should be prosecuted and convicted on the grounds of the samples containing 25 per cent *Gaultheria fragrantissima* !! .

The question arises—What evidence was there to prove the presence of 25 per cent foreign matter, especially in the case in which its identity was

given as Gaultheria Fragrantissima. Since the samples conformed to the chemical analysis required in Rules 2 (a), (b) and (c), was it a case of finding a hypothetical pretext for prosecution by falling back upon the indefiniteness of Rule 1. The teas were admittedly not up to standard, and had deteriorated as the figures in the appended Table indicate clearly, but there was definitely *no* foreign matter present, as judged from every aspect, and the ash contents conformed to those laid down by the Madras Act III—yet the vendor was convicted !

UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGED ADULTERATION WITH GAULTHERIA FRAGRANTISSIMA.

Some time ago the Writer was requested by the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I. to obtain specimens of Gaultheria fragrantissima for the Government Analyst, as the latter suspected it as being used as an adulterant.

Gaultheria fragrantissima, Wall, possesses ecological limits ranging between some 4,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level. The estate from which the alleged adulterated samples emanated, is situated between these limits ; still, can there be any motive or logical reason for a Planter including the leaves of Gaultheria fragrantissima in his tea, when he already possesses an illimitable supply of genuine tea leaves, admitted of poor quality, but conforming to Rule I of the Madras Act III, which he could with ease employ for the purpose ? Further, is there any logical reason why a Calicut merchant should go to the expense of transporting the leaves of Gaultheria fragrantissima from Ootacamund (the nearest locality in which it is to be found in abundance), some 120 miles from Calicut in order to adulterate the very cheapest grade of tea available.

The physical and chemical characteristics of the leaves of Gaultheria also render it a most unsuitable agent for adulteration, and the Writer does not hesitate in stating that a large number of common shrubs could be more conveniently handled as an adulterant. Its presence would readily be detected if present in amounts up to 25 per cent. Merely crushing the leaves between one's hands is sufficient to develop an aroma of methyl salicylate, which would be recognizable by a layman. Even after 45 minutes' infusion with boiling water, the alleged samples gave no indication of the presence of methyl salicylate—thus demonstrating the absence of the leaves of Gaultheria fragrantissima. Whence, then, the evidence for convicting a merchant on the grounds of the presence of Gaultheria fragrantissima in the tea he is selling ?

It appears, in order to prevent further accusations of adulteration based on the illusory idea that the leaves of Gaultheria are being included, that definite analytical data should be obtained. For this purpose, samples of Gaultheria leaves are being obtained, and their analytical characteristics will be determined. Simultaneously percentages of Gaultheria leaves up to 25 per cent of the tea sample, will be added, and differences in analytical results, obtained by the use of the recommended technique given at the end of this Memorandum, will be noted.

NO PROTECTION OFFERED BY PRESENT ACT :—

The foregoing vindication of the alleged adulterated tea samples should really be included parenthetically. It is mentioned here with the object of

indicating that in addition to the present Act for the detection of Adulteration of Tea being unsatisfactory and inadequate, it may actually lose its protective intention, and exert a destructive influence upon the sale of the commodity in India, and damage the reputation of Planters, innocent of any attempt to adulterate teas. It must be added that the Writer holds no brief for the sale of the samples under discussion, and one does not hesitate in adding that the Planter himself would not attempt to sell samples in such a state of deterioration. At the same time there is a vast significance between teas stated to be 'adulterated' and teas stated to be 'deteriorated'. The former should be a case for rigorous legal action, the latter one of regret and inhibited sale only.

IMPORTANCE OF SILICEOUS MATERIAL IN ANALYSIS OF TEA FOR ADULTERATION

It is impossible to leave the question of Ash as an indication of adulteration without referring to that percentage of the ash insoluble in 'dilute mineral acids' and which, to the naked eye, is composed of particles of sand. This is the foundation for the inclusion of Rule 2 (c) which states that the ash insoluble in 'dilute mineral acids' must not be greater than 1 per cent calculated on the dry sample.

The inclusion of a certain percentage of particles of siliceous material in tea is unavoidable. The system employed in the plucking of leaf renders particles of soil being introduced an unavoidable accompaniment, especially on those estates resorting to the system of 'picking over' the leaf in order to remove the coarser leaves and excess stalk. It is impossible to imagine this procedure divorced from the possibility of picking up small but definitely perceptible, quantities of sand or soil. Heavy winds experienced during the hot dry months would explain an appreciable increase in the siliceous material in the leaf; roadside bushes are coated with 'it' during the dry season, an occurrence intensified by the progress of traffic along the roads. That all the various compartments of a factory should be free from dust during such time is also inconceivable. In the Annual Report for 1926, of the Ceylon Tea Research Institute, we find that 'the true ash content is also masked by errors introduced through the adherence of soil particles on to the leaf caused by deposition of dust on the leaf, splashing during rain and various other effects'. Combining the foregoing with the observation that tea throughout the processes involved in manufacture is periodically in contact with the factory floors, it strikes one as remarkable that the amount of siliceous matter present in tea is of so small an order, and confined almost entirely as a result of the sifting process, to the poorer grades such as the Dusts, in particular No. 2 Dust. A certain percentage of siliceous matter in tea must be accepted as an inevitable and unavoidable accompaniment of tea production.

SILICEOUS MATERIAL IN RELATION TO THE MADRAS PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION ACT

Now, on referring to the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918 under clause 5 and paragraph (ii), it is stated 'Provided that in the following case (s) no offence under this section shall be deemed to have been committed.

Where in the process of production, collection, preparation or conveyance of the food some extraneous material has *unavoidably been admixed therewith.*

To take the sample of No. 2 Dust from Estate 3 as a concrete example : it contains 2·76 per cent of siliceous ash (i. e. insoluble in dilute mineral acid), and as shown, the vendor of such a tea could be prosecuted and convicted on all three accounts under Rules 2 (a), (b) and (c) of the Madras Act III. In fact, as already pointed out, this high percentage of siliceous material is the sole ingredient responsible for the sample not conforming with the Rules. Yet, the Writer is prepared to vouch for the non-adulteration of the tea with siliceous material, and from the foregoing account of the innumerable possibilities for the unavoidable introduction of particles of sand into the poorer of tea, the vendor should be exempt from prosecution according to Clause 5 of the Adulteration Act reproduced above, though liable under the rules of the Act as they exist at present.

It seems unnecessary to enlarge on these indications that the Rules relating to the chemical detection of adulteration are unsatisfactory. As they stand, they represent no sound criterion of adulteration, and they omit entirely to introduce any mention of the main essentials of a tea such as a reasonable quantity of soluble extract and a reasonable amount of the theotannin bodies.

SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS OF THE RULES.

Before proceeding to a detailed description of the characteristics of a tea which should classify it as a standard tea, it is felt necessary to consider more exactly the definition of the term 'adulteration'. No definition is present in the Madras Act III as to what is meant by 'adulteration' though since the Act reads 'Prevention of Adulteration', it is inferred that the adulteration is active and signifies the intentional addition of extraneous or foreign matter. At the same time, 'deterioration' is synonymous with 'adulteration' (Dictionary of English Synonyms, Soule), and hence 'deteriorated' teas might be considered as 'Adulterated'. If such is the intention of the Act, namely to proscribe 'deteriorated' teas, it is felt, since this is a purely passive 'adulteration' without any intent to defraud, that it should not come under the same legal penalty as active 'adulteration'. It would therefore seem necessary to consider, first of all, the characteristics of a standard tea and set minimum values to which a standard tea must conform. A tea not conforming with the minimum values, should, one feels, be dealt with under a 'Sales of Foods and Drugs Act' and be liable to confiscation and destruction. The tea should then be examined for active adulteration, and if positive tests for adulteration are given according to the suggestions for detection of such given later, then the vendor should be prosecuted under a Prevention of Adulteration Act, with liability to a fine, in addition to the confiscation and destruction of the consignment. The Writer makes these forensic suggestions with reserve, the only purpose being to indicate the necessity of differentiating legally between 'active adulteration' and 'passive adulteration' or 'deterioration'.

CAN RELIANCE BE PLACED ON 'DECISION AGAINST RESTRICTION?'

Dutch Scepticism regarding Governor-General's Report

WHAT TO DO WITH CONFISCATED RUBBER

An editorial in the 'Java-Bode' of October 28, expresses the opinion that it is very doubtful whether, in the present state of negotiations which are pending with Holland, that the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies would make such a definite utterance against restriction, which was published recently, as it would have such immediate influence on the situation of the rubber market.

'Against this,' the editorial continues, 'we place the fact that it would be desirable that the decision would have to be taken as soon as possible with regard to the question whether restriction measures should be applied or not, in which latter case the strongest estates will be able to maintain themselves while the smallest and weakest will have to close down and cease working. We had this morning, in connection with this question, an interview with Jonkheer R. van Lennep, Director of the Kali Tello, and with Mr. N. L. Phillips of the Bukit Kubu estate, Seremban, F. M. S., who is staying for some time in Java, in order to discuss the subject of rubber.'

RESTRICTION DESIRED

'The opinion of these rubber experts is that during the last six months the situation has developed itself very unfavourably, especially with regard to the decrease in consumption, but that notwithstanding this, restriction measures have the preference above the system of the survival of the fittest. The disappearance of companies with less capital will not have any influence on the existing amount of planting material. When a small company closes down its estates and gives up further exploitation, then ten will stand ready to buy such an estate at a very low price and let it remain lying fallow in order to bring it in full production again as soon as a more favourable period arises. The strongest who have weathered the present crisis, and who have taken care for the necessary stabilization will be immediately brought into a dangerous position again.'

REPLACING PRODUCERS

'Existing companies will then vanish, but new concerns will commence activity, which later will work the existing plantations and the danger of over-production will remain as great as it was before. Both gentlemen were of opinion that effective results could only be reached by restriction of stocks brought on the market, which restriction could be brought about by supervision of the shipping from exporting harbours, by rubber exporters, whether European companies or traders in native rubber, giving part of the produce to the Government as a tax "in natura." These stocks must be kept, and in no case exported as rubber may be exported, but can be used for certain purposes to be dealt with later. If one wants as soon as possible a healthy situation for the rubber planting industry, in which not only the interests of the industry are concerned but the interests of the country where the industry takes so prominent a part, then the restriction percentage for export will have to be very high for the first year.'

THE SITUATION

' Roughly described, the situation at present is like this. Stocks in America are 260,000 tons, while those in Great Britain are 130,000 tons. To this should be added sailing stocks from Singapore (on the high seas) which are 60,000 tons, and these are more than the normal stocks. World stocks can thus be estimated at a total of 450,000 tons.

' This is 200,000 tons more than is necessary to get a stabilized rubber price. The three rubber producing countries—Ceylon, Malaya, and Netherlands India—bring in yearly 900,000 tons, while the world consumption at present only comes to 700,000 tons. If we now can agree, for the first year, on a restriction in the export of the available stocks—say of 50 per cent—then, in the first twelve months, we would get an export of half the production, i.e., 450,000 tons.

' The world consumption demands 700,000 tons. So that the stock at our disposal during the first year of the application of this method would decrease with 250,000 tons, and would be reduced to 200,000 tons—a stock for about three months—which can be considered normal. With this strong measure, we could come in a year's time to a normal basis, which could cause a stabilized price for rubber producers. There would have to be a restriction on further exports amounting to 22 per cent. the difference between the 900,000 tons of produced rubber, and the 700,000 tons of consumed rubber and this would still leave a reasonable margin of profit.

' It will be only natural that the strong measure of a restriction of 50 per cent. on the export with the present low rubber prices, especially during the first months, will lead to great difficulties and heavy losses. Against this we can argue that, when the rubber-producing countries come to an agreement about this measure, rubber prices will automatically increase, as buyers will be certain that against the current price of 2½d. per pound, in the future no rubber will be any more available, and they will hasten to buy at the lowest possible price, which, in any case, will be higher than the market price at the moment, in order to replenish stocks. It is to be expected that this measure will give a stabilized price of rubber of 5½ to 6d. per pound.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE SUPERFLUOUS RUBBER?

' The system of restriction of export, and not of production, is propagated by the above gentlemen because one can keep a more easy and a more direct control of the export than one ever can have on the production, especially with regard to native rubber.

' The question arises now as to what should be done with the superfluous stocks, which are not exported and which are delivered as a tax "in natura"? From various sides, when the above plan was described, it was considered to be the most rational solution that these stocks should be destroyed. We would sound a word of warning against this, as there is certainly a possibility of making this superfluous rubber profitable, and to get the expenses and even more than that returned. Mr. W. L. Braddon has worked out a scheme based on experiments made by him, which we would like to bring to the notice of the public.

' He proposes that when the surplus rubber which is not being used for ordinary consumption in the country of its origin could be made into a product for which a market could be found, this over-production would

no longer be non-economical, but would become of profit to the country and its population. In connection with this he points to the experiments of Mr. Kendall of Pinji Estate, which have shown that crude rubber can be made into turpentine, up to 80 per cent yield, against an expenditure of 5 cents (Straits) per gallon, although the cost of the crude material has not been taken into consideration. To this should be added the cost of transport. As the factories would be erected in the neighbourhood of the export harbours, where the superfluous quantities of crude rubber would be held in custody, then the total expenditure of 7 cents (Straits) or 10 cents (Dutch) would not be exceeded. The price of turpentine on the London market was noted in August for ordinary turpentine at £35 per ton, and for American turpentine at £47 per ton, which is about equal to a price of 36d. and 49d., respectively, per gallon. The consumption of turpentine in Great Britain alone is more than 500,000 tons per year, while the world consumption is more than 2,000,000 tons per year.

'Mr. Braddon further works out his scheme. He starts from the premises that surplus rubber, which cannot be exported and which cannot find a market in other ways, could be placed at the disposal of experimenters, so that rubber producers could have a share of the profits and stabilize rubber prices, while their estates remained profitable and production was not restricted. Naturally it would be necessary that the turpentine factories to be erected should be under direct control of the Government, and only should make use of those stocks for which no other ways and means of use could be found. The normal rubber planting industry remains in this scheme in the most prominent place. The use of the surplus stocks is a second consideration, as it is the main aim to stabilize the price of rubber, and to assure the continuance of life of the present estates still working. Next to this a means has been sought not to make the superfluous stocks valueless.'

'It appears to us to be a scheme worth serious consideration, and which will rouse very great interest'—*The Times of Ceylon, November 18, 1931.*

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NOW IS THE TIME !

The Election has given the 'National Government' an unqualified mandate to put the country's house in order. Party creeds and party shibboleths are to be discarded and policy is solely to be dictated by necessity. Business men have as much to learn and unlearn as have politicians. Will they, too, rise to the occasion and make this the turning point in a truly National Revival ?

The General Election has left the political situation in many respects analogous to that which followed the Armistice. The Coalition Government have been presented with a blank cheque to meet our liabilities in any way that offers the best prospect of success, and they are given a confidence that has been withheld from every administration that has been returned on a party label since the previous Coalition was split up. The reason for this restoration of confidence is as plain as was the lack of it in the past. The people had lost faith in the House of Commons and its petty tricks of party warfare. Party divisions based upon immutable and inherited political faiths

that had no necessary affinity with present-day conditions, had ceased to exercise any spell upon the average man or woman voter. There was a general belief that all political actions had degenerated to a system of bribery and that there was nothing to choose between the parties in their corrupt bargaining for votes. All that suspicion, for the time being at least, has been dispersed by the first demonstration on the part of our Parliamentary mandarins of their determination to put national interests before the ballot box. The first gesture was the suspension of the gold standard. To the 'man in the street' the stoppage of gold exports conveyed no definite meaning, but he has been taught to understand that the perilous rate at which the precious metal was being sent abroad was mainly the effect of the discrepancy between the volume of commodities we were importing and what we were selling to the foreigner. That drainage of our gold supplies had to be stopped at any sacrifice, for our daily food depended upon our solvency.

No less easy to understand was the corollary. The balance could only be adjusted by exporting more of our goods or by buying less from abroad. It is possible to combine the two remedies, but whereas the first is dependent upon a number of contingencies outside our own control, we can ensure the second to a large extent by an expedient which practically the whole of the modern world has adopted to protect national industry. If we are to produce more of the goods we consume we must have some effective means of discriminating between those we permit to compete in our own markets and those which we wish to exclude. The only way is by a scientific system of tariffs, and it is the frank recognition of lifelong Free Traders that the time has come when our trade requires some measure of fiscal protection that has confirmed the country in its belief in the new Coalition's sincerity of purpose. Allied to the necessity of increasing our home manufactures is the need of absorbing our vast army of unemployed. Even if the arguments of the free importers—to the effect that the consumer pays duty—were true, the case for Protection would still be as strong. It is no use having cheap goods if there is no money to pay for them, and conversely it is better to pay more if the higher prices ensure steady wages. Fortunately, however, we have recent illustrations of the fact that import duties do not increase the cost to the consumer, and the most notable are associated directly and indirectly with the rubber trade. Since the safeguarding duties have been imposed upon imported motor-cars and tyres, there has been no addition to the cost. On the contrary, both cars and tyres are cheaper than they have ever been, and in both cases there has been a very substantial expansion in the number of employed. There is no reason to suppose that these are likely to prove isolated examples.

We are not maintaining, however, that the advent of a non-party Government and the introduction of tariffs are all that are required to put the country on its feet. Far from it. The chief contribution to our salvation must still come from the employers of labour, not less in the methods they renounce than in those they introduce. Standardisation and rationalisation have been slogans for a long time now, but we have seen far too little of their translation into practical affairs. The old spirit of individualism is still rampant in industry; there has been little abatement of the suspicion and secrecy that impels a British firm to work behind closed doors lest a competitor may derive some advantage from knowing how work is carried on. Hence it is only in the great, highly organized units of industry that we see mass production on standardised lines with the resultant lowering of costs all round and better means of distribution and command of raw

materials. It is indeed something of an anomaly that the principle of co-operation should have been so thoroughly grasped and utilised by the wage-earner that he has been able to dictate to his masters, and has only narrowly missed dictatorship of the nation, and that it should have been practically a dead letter with the employers. Here again the rubber trade may provide a moral example. If the best interests of the industry as a whole were to be considered, there would not only be a close alliance between all sections of the manufacturing side, as has been so consistently urged by the India Rubber Manufacturers' Association, but it would be extended to include the sources of the raw material as well. The state of the plantation industry may well become almost as great a menace to the consumers as to the unfortunate producers. The fluctuations of the past few years have entailed heavy losses on holders of large stocks, and now that prices can hardly go lower the latter may find in the not remote future that their very supplies are endangered. Surely it is time to listen to our repeated advocacy of a Round Table Conference, at which it might be possible to come to an agreement to guarantee the planter a mutually acceptable profit!

—*Rubber Age.*

WORLD COFFEE PRODUCTION

THE POSITION IN BRAZIL

Mr. H. Eric Miller, the Chairman, speaking at the 20th ordinary general meeting of the Bajoe Kidoel Rubber and Produce Company, Ltd., held in the Council Room of the Rubber Growers' Association (Incorporated), 2/4, Idol Lane, London, E.C., on October 14, gave the following interesting statistics with regard to coffee:—

World production of coffee during the crop year July, 1930, to June, 1931, amounted to about 25,000,000 bags, against 38,300,000 bags in 1929-30, 18,800,000 bags in 1928-29, and 35,500,000 bags in 1927-28.

The consumption of coffee during the year 1930-31, excluding some 300,000 bags destroyed in Brazil, was between 24,500,000 and 25,000,000 bags. The actual deliveries are given at 25,100,000 bags.

The total world stocks of coffee, including the stocks in the interior warehouses of Brazil, at the end of June, 1931, amounted to 28,500,000 bags, or about the same as they were a year previously. Of this quantity it is estimated that a million bags are unsuitable for consumption and are to be destroyed.

During the past year exports of coffee from San Paulo were regulated by the terms of the Coffee Realisation Loan, whereby one-twenty-fourth of the estimates of the 1930-31 and 1931-32 crops were to be exported each month. This system of regulating exports made no provision for supporting the price and the new Federal Government, which came into power after the revolution of October 1930, in order to relieve the pressure of unwanted coffee on the market, proclaimed in February its intention to purchase and retire from the market, all stocks of coffee held at June 30, 1931, in the interior warehouses of the coffee-producing States of Brazil. The stock bought by the San Paulo Government under the terms of the Coffee Realisation Loan (3,000,000 bags) was not taken over by the Federal Government.

A tax in kind of 20 per cent. on exports and a tax of one milreis per tree on all new plantings, with one or two minor exceptions, were imposed. The tax in kind was opposed by producers, and the Federal Government replaced it by an export tax of 10s. per bag for the next four years. The proceeds of this tax are to be devoted entirely to purchasing and destroying marketable coffee. It is reported that so far over 1,000,000 bags have been destroyed.

The output of Brazilian coffee during the current year is generally estimated at 25,000,000 bags, but as the exports will still be regulated under the terms of the Realisation Loan, the actual supplies will amount to about 31,500,000 bags; in addition there will be about 8,500,000 bags of mild coffee—a total supply of 30,000,000 bags. Excluding the 1,275,000 bags bartered to the United States Government in exchange for 25,000,000 bushels of wheat, the deliveries will probably amount to nearly 25,000,000 bags. Over five million bags, therefore, will require to be destroyed during the year to balance supply and demand, but there will be sufficient funds in the hands of the authorities to buy up a greater quantity. If the Government of Brazil adheres rigorously to its scheme, it will probably maintain the current price, if it does not in time actually increase it; a large quantity of coffee, however, will have to be destroyed each year. On the other hand, with a crop so dependent on climatic conditions as coffee, a run of adverse seasons or a severe frost, such as has occurred at intervals in the past, would completely alter the situation. Meantime coffee values rule very low, and there is only a small margin of profit for even the most efficient producers.

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RUSSIAN GROWN TEA

[The following is taken from the *Times of Ceylon* dated November 21, 1931, and is reproduced as being of general interest to Planters, some of whom have already written to the *Planters' Chronicle* on this subject.—Editor.]

The Editor, 'Times of Ceylon'

SIR,

We give you on attached sheet an extract of the Tea Market Report issued by our London office on the 24th October, 1931, as we think many of your subscribers will find its subject-matter of interest.

Yours, etc.,

*Per Pro. R. O. MENNELL & Co.
H. G. GREENHILL.*

COLOMBO, November 21, 1931

—
(Extract referred to.)

R. O. Mennell & Co.'s Tea Market Report

Russian Grown Tea.—As part of the Russian Five Year Plan, an attempt is being made to multiply tenfold the production of tea in the Caucasus for Russian home consumption. It has long been known that

Georgia has a climate and soil suited to the cultivation of tea, and as long ago as 1847, seed was planted there experimentally, but it was not until about 45 years later that the industry reached commercial dimensions. The real father of tea-planting in this part of the world was Mr. C. S. Popoff, head of the famous tea-trading firm of that name. In 1893 he planted 385 acres with China tea seed, later introducing Ceylon and Indian varieties, bringing expert tea planters as instructors, and building a modern factory.

Inspired by his example, the Russian Government planted up 600 acres at Chakva and did much to encourage others to develop the industry, and, by 1913, some 1,825 acres were under tea cultivation in Georgia. In 1925, the Soviet Ministries of Agriculture of two or three smaller Southern Republics, aided by the Central and Trans-Caucasian State Banks, joined with the Co-operative Societies to form a State Corporation to promote and control the cultivation of tea, and by 1930, 36,000 acres had been planted and over 50,000 peasant households had become engaged in the industry, some organized in collective farms or plantations, some working individually. Three experimental tea stations have been established in Gur, Adzharistan and Mingreli, to determine the types of seed and the methods of cultivation most suited to the district. Production estimates for the near future are : 1931, 1,760,000 lbs., 1932, 3,300,000 lbs., 1934, 10,670,000 lbs., when there will be 29 factories in operation.

We have tasted samples of some of these Chakva district Georgian teas that have been received in London this week. There are six grades : Flowery B.O.P., tightly twisted leafy broken, with very showy golden tip, rather like a Darjeeling in appearance ; bright infusion, full, fairly pungent liquor but with no distinctive flavour. Orange Pekoe, very thinly rolled, straight black leaf of good length, bright infusion and lightish neutral cup. Pekoe, neat, regular fairly black leaf, plain lightish cup. Broken Pekoe, very small, almost on Fannings, with a little tip, cup not so stout as size of leaf would suggest. Broken Pekoe Souchong, neat open leaf. Pekoe Souchong, good sized greyish black leaf.

All are clean sweet liquoring teas of a nondescript neutral character with no trace of commonness or burn. They evidence careful manufacture and grading, and indeed are a most interesting lot. It remains to be seen whether from the climate and soil of Georgia, it will be possible to produce any characteristic flavour.

TEA

JAVA AND SUMATRA—

Only 9,046 packages were offered in auction on Thursday. There was a good demand and common kinds advanced $\frac{1}{2}d$ to $\frac{1}{4}d$. per lb.

8,911 packages were offered in Auction on Thursday. Common and medium kinds were occasionally a farthing lower, but dusts were firm, as were tippy Broken Orange Pekoes.

In Amsterdam the market was generally steady, with tippy sorts dearer.—*The Produce Markets Review*, dated October 31 and November 7, 1931, respectively.

HARRY SANGERS CIRCUS

3-30 TWICE DAILY 7-30

GREAT ATTRACTION

'HEVAE'

in his

MARVELLOUS**BRASILLIENSUS****ACT**

COME AND SEE HIM

THE WORLD'S GREATEST AND BEST-KNOWN 'S.D.'

WITH

HIS GANG OF GENUINE TAPPERISTS AND (F)LIARS
(Including 'TAP ROOT' Chief of the USTULINAS)

IN

TAPPING-KNIFE THROWING

THE DISAPPEARING BUCKETS

THE INDIA RUBBER MEN

AND MANY OTHER SENSATIONAL and DARING ACTS

GREAT ATTRACTION.

ADMISSION, ETC. ETC.

— : o : —

HARRY CROSSES**SUPERB CINEMA**

BANDY ROAD

LONDONCORE.

3-30 CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE 11-30

COMING NEXT WEEK

ENTHRALLING INDIAN TALKIE

MALABAR MAGNIFICENCE

SOUTH INDIAN SEDUCTIVENESS

ENTITLED

SLUMPED

FEATURING

'PERIA DORE'

And His ALL STAR Caste of INDIAN WEEDERS AND WRITERS

Do Not Miss This

DRAMA

OF

PASSION PLAY PLANTING

COMING NEXT WEEK

PRICES AS USUAL

J.A.D.

U.P.A.S.I. NOTES

NOTICE

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, U.P.A.S.I.

Cooly Census

To be held on December 15, 1931

The under-quoted letter and duplicate Census Forms were forwarded on 17th November to the Superintendents of all Estates which are members of District Planters' Associations.

If any Estate, irrespective of whether it is a subscriber to the Labour Department or not, has not received this letter and Census forms, application for them should be made at once to the undersigned.

Every Estate is requested to post this census return as soon as possible after the census has been taken on 15th December.

Madras,

November 26, 1931.

C. H. BROCK,

Director.

To

THE MANAGER,

Estate,COOLY CENSUS—*December 15, 1931*

DEAR SIR,

At the Meeting of the General Committee held at Ootacamund on March 4, 1929, it was resolved that a Census of Coolies employed on all Estates subscribing to District Associations be held annually, irrespective of whether Estates are subscribers to the Labour Department or not.

This year the Census is to be made on December 15, 1931.

I enclose Census Forms in duplicate, one to be filled in and returned to me, and one for you to retain the copy of your return.

I shall be much obliged if you will have the Census made on that date, December 15, the form filled in and posted to me in the enclosed envelope that same day, if possible, or the next day at the latest, as the Executive Committee require all figures to be complete and tabulated before the end of that month to facilitate the preparation of the Budget.

I trust you will be so good as to see that the return is made as accurately as possible. Your special attention is drawn to the Acreage Statement at the foot of the form. This has been included to facilitate the Director's work in compiling the return.

Yours faithfully,

C. H. BROCK,

November 15, 1931.
Director.

COPY OF G. Q. No. Ms. 2433, DATED 16TH
NOVEMBER 1931

ASSESSMENT—Charge for water—(Salem)—The Shevaroys—Levy—
Orders passed.

ORDER :-

The Government agree with the Board of Revenue and direct that no charge should be levied for the use of water taken from the streams in the planting areas on the Shevaroys in the Salem District which have been included in the holdings of the planters and assessed to land revenue accordingly.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

(Sd.) J. A. THORNE,
Secretary to Government.

-: o :-

DISTRICT NOTES

NILGIRIS

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Nilgiri Planters' Association (Incorporated)
held at the Coonoor Club at 3-30 p.m. on November 6, 1931

Present :

Mr. C. L. Greig (*Chairman*), Messrs. H. S. Cameron, R. J. Layard, L. G. Elkington, F. Cooke, K. J. H. Mackenzie, A. H. Mole, J. Erskine, L. F. Lake, J. B. Vernede, F. L. Gordon, W. A. Cherry and S. H. Dean (*Honorary Secretary*).

1. Notice calling the Meeting was read.
2. Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.
3. *Accounts.*—Proposed by Mr. J. B. Vernede and seconded by Mr. R. J. Layard, that the accounts for 1929-30 and 1930-31, as audited and circulated, be adopted.

Carried.

Proposed by Mr. H. S. Cameron, and seconded by Mr. J. B. Vernede, that the Chairman and the Secretary be authorized to appoint an Auditor in the Nilgiris in order to effect a saving of time and work in dealing with the accounts, the appointment being subject to the approval of the Committee.'

Carried unanimously.

4. *Subscriptions—N.P.A.*—Proposed from the Chair 'that the second half of the current year's subscription be not collected.'

Carried unanimously.

5. *Whitley Commission on Labour.*—Proposed from the Chair 'that the Standing Committee, with the addition of Mr. L. G. Elkington, be appointed to deal with this matter, and report to the U.P.A.S.I., in due course.'

Carried unanimously.

6. *Coffee Scientific Department.*—The Chairman explained the situation as regards the proposal to experiment with artificial Drying of Coffee, and the Meeting expressed regret that this proposal could not be given effect to.

7. *Tea Propaganda.*—Proposed by Mr. H. S. Cameron and seconded by Mr. J. B. Verner, 'that the members of this Association agree to support the U.P.A.S.I.'s promised contribution to the Indian Tea Cess Committee, and will subscribe at the rate of 1½ annas per cultivated acre of tea, or supply 1½ lbs. of Broken Pekoe per acre at 5 annas per lb. for one year only, to Craigmore Estate Factory who undertake to bulk and despatch the required amount.'

Carried unanimously.

8. *Madras Motor Vehicles Act.*—Proposed from the Chair 'that this Association supports Mr. James' amendment to the Madras Motor Vehicles Act, and also strongly urges the advisability of the registration and taxation of carts.'

Carried unanimously.

9. *U.P.A.S.I. 38th Annual General Meeting, 1931.*—Report of the Delegate, Mr. C. L. Greig :—

GENTLEMEN,

I duly attended the 38th Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. held at Bangalore on August 17, 18 and 19 last. As the Book of Proceedings has been in your hands for some days, you will not require a detailed report from me.

Labour Advances.—I obtained permission from the Meeting to bring up your resolution which you will find on page 60, which was carried and which I trust meets with your approval.

The outstanding feature of this Meeting was the unanimous re-election of the Chairman and Committee, demonstrating the confidence that all members of the U.P.A.S.I. have in them.

10. *Estate Staffs' Association of South India.*—Proposed from the Chair 'that as long as the Estate Staffs' Association of South India is run on its present lines, the Nilgiri Planters' Association recognizes the organization, and recommends that this is also done by the U.P.A.S.I.'

Carried unanimously.

11. *Any other business.*—The following letters were read :

(a) from the Director of Agriculture in Mysore notifying a Coffee Grafting Course to be held at Balehonnur from November 22 to 30, and a

Field-Day on the 27th when His Highness The Maharaja of Mysore would be opening the Laboratories of the Station ;

(b) circular from the Coffee-Curing Firms of the Presidency, advising that the rates for curing and shipping is reduced by 5/- per ton as from July 1, 1931 ;

(c) from the Divisional Engineer Telegraphs, Bangalore, stating that the proposal for extending the Kotagiri line had been referred to the higher authorities ;

(d) from the Collector, re: Liquor Shops, asking if the Association has any changes to propose in existing sites. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to reply there was none, but to suggest that the Shops in question should be moved off the main roads where possible ;

(e) from the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., re: Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund, pointing out that the expenses this year to-date in granting assistance had greatly exceeded the income in subscriptions and donations, and appealing for increased donations accordingly.

It was then proposed from the Chair 'that a One Day's Pay Fund be started from November, subscriptions being sent in to the Honorary Secretary who would forward them on to the U.P.A S.I.

Carried unanimously.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to advise all members to this effect.

12. A vote of thanks to the Chair, and the Honorary Secretary, Coonoor Club, for the use of the room concluded the Meeting.

C. L. GREIG,
Chairman.

S. H. DEAN,
Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH TRAVANCORE

An Extraordinary Meeting of the South Travancore Planters' Association
was held at the Kalthurity Valley Club on Saturday,
November 14th, 1931, at 3-30 p.m.

Present :

H. R. C. Parker (*Chairman*), R. Branson, L. C. Cockaday, W. Gillespie, M. W. Mackay, T. W. U. Park, A. W. Leslie, C. E. Smith and A. P. D. Lodge (*Honorary Secretary*).

Honorary Member:

R. M. Lawson.

Visitor :

C. Ransford.

Before opening the Meeting, the Chairman referred to the death of Mr. H. R. Bowling, who had for some years been a member of the Planting community in South Travancore; also to the death of Mr. J. S. Nichols

who had planted in South India for many years, and had been Chairman of the U.P.A.S.I. on three occasions. A vote of condolence was passed.

(1) The Honorary Secretary read the notice calling the Meeting.

(2) The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8th August, 1931, as published in the *Planters' Chronicle* were taken as read. One item 'in Committee' was read by the Honorary Secretary. Mr. A. W. Leslie then proposed that the Minutes be confirmed. Seconded by Mr. W. Gillespie.

Carried.

(3) *Report of Delegate to the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting.*—Mr. H. J. Walmesley's report was read by the Honorary Secretary.

Regarding the Whitley Commission, Mr. M. W. Mackay suggested that a copy of the full report be purchased, and circulated to those members who wished to read it. This was agreed to. The Chairman asked members who had any comments on the extracts as published in the *Planters' Chronicle* of 12th September, 1931, to send them in to the Honorary Secretary at an early date.

Regarding the work of the General Committee, the Secretary, Upasi's letter of the 30th October, 1931, was read, and fully discussed. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Committee agreed wholeheartedly with the proposal to circulate copies of Minutes of all Executive Committee Meetings, Secretary's Monthly Reports, etc., to all Committee Members of District Planters Associations, but considered that the proposed holding of General Committee Meetings at various centres would entail expenditure that was unjustified at the present moment. To this the Meeting agreed.

The Chairman then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Walmesley for so ably representing us at the Meeting.

Carried unanimously.

(4) *Subjects for the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.*—The Meeting agreed to the Committee's proposal for one of the subjects to be brought forward to be 'Tolls', and that our representative get in touch with Mr. F. E. James on the matter.

(5) *Rubber Advisory Committee.*—Mr. H. R. C. Parker explained the position regarding the engagement of a Scientific Officer at the Experimental Station. His letter to the Member for Rubber, dated 9th November, was read out, and also a letter drafted according to the Committee's views *re* the employment of an Indian Scientist. After a discussion, the Meeting, by a show of hands, agreed by a small majority to the latter letter, and our representative was requested to write accordingly.

(6) *S. I. P. Benevolent Fund.*—The Secretary, Upasi's letter of the 2nd November, 1931, was read, in which further support from all members was asked for. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate a copy of the same to all members. The Chairman suggested that members, in addition to assisting directly could, by joining the Upasi Buying Agency, indirectly help the Fund, as every year the balance in hand, after paying for actual expenses, which were comparatively small, was paid to the Benevolent Fund.

(7) *The Estates Staffs' Association of South India.*—The Honorary Secretary explained briefly what the main objects of the Association were:

The Chairman then put the following resolution to the Meeting, 'that this Association is in favour of recognizing the Estates Staffs' Association of South India under its present constitution'. This was carried unanimously.

A. P. D. LODGE,
Honorary Secretary.

H. R. C. PARKER,
Chairman.

-: O :-

CORRESPONDENCE

Tea Consumption in India

The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle.'

SIR,

With reference to the question of increasing the Consumption of Tea in India it would be interesting to know the views of the Director of the Labour Department as to the supply of tea in the villages from which our labour comes, i.e.: in how many of these villages is a regular and plentiful supply of good, cheap tea available?

This information would, one imagines, be of assistance to the I.T.C.C.

Moreover many estates in S. India would be glad to supply tea at, say, 8 annas a lb. to reliable dealers in the villages.

Yours, etc.,

November 27, 1931.

SELL MORE TEA.

Lorries and the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act

The Editor, 'The Planters Chronicle,' Madras

DEAR SIR,

It may be of interest to the public generally to know that a Local Body (District Board or Municipal Council) cannot actually levy a license fee on lorries until the regulations regarding that levy have been sanctioned by the Local Government.

The following Local Bodies have not as yet had their regulations regarding the levy of licence fees on lorries sanctioned by the Local Government:—

(a) *District Boards.*—Anantapur, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Malabar, Madura, West Godavari, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, South Kanara and Vizagapatam.

(b) *Municipal Councils.*—All Municipal Councils except Calicut, Karaikudi, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly.

Yours, etc.,

200, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS,
December 2, 1931.

F. E. JAMES.

MOTORING
has set the pace
DUNLOP
has produced the
TYRE

FORT
DUNLOP

New, special features distinguish the
'FORT':—

Deep, buttressed triple stud tread to give long mileage; to bite and hold the road in skiddy weather.

Extended side-wall buttresses, affording even greater strength and dignity.

Heavy type cord casing of special construction.

Generous application of insulation and cushion rubber, for resistance to stresses and to stone bruises.



*Every motorist who wants tyre economy,
tyre reliability, tyre safety, will—*

FIT A "FORT" — THE TYRE INCOMPARABLE.

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD.,
MOUNT ROAD — **MADRAS.**



IN A CLASS BY ITSELF

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea.									
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Novr. 5, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 5, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 5, 1930	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, November 5 and 12, 1931, respectively.)				N. India	1 0·44	1 0·03	1 2·74						
				S. India	0 11·28	0 10·93	0 2·48						
				Ceylon ..	1 6·05	1 3·20	1 6·57						
				Java ...	0 9·55	0 7·50	0 10·10						
				Sumatra ..	0 7·45	0 7·64	0 11·20						
				Nyassa- land d.	0 6·61	0 6·90	0 9·25						
			s. d.	Total..	d 1 0·96	e 1 0·27	f 1 3·24						
(a) <i>Anamallais</i> —													
Thay Mudi	156	1 3½ (12)											
Mukottu Mudi	96	1 3½ (12)											
Peria Karamalai	144	1 1½ (5)											
Pachaimallai	54	1 1 (12)											
Naduar	83	1 0½ (12)											
Pachaimallai	35	1 0½ (5)											
Velonie	138	1 0 (12)											
Pannimade	87	1 0 (5)											
*Kallyar B.	70	0 11½ (12)											
(b) <i>Central Travancore</i> .													
Glenmary	114	1 2½ (5)											
Arnakal	120	1 1 (12)											
Glenmary	114	1 1 (12)											
Stagbrook	110	1 1 (5)											
*Arnakal	162	1 0½ (5)											
Bon Ami	114	1 0 (5)											
*Kuduwa Karnum	72	1 0 (12)											
Pasumallay	144	0 11½ (5)											
<i>Twyford and Ashley Estates</i> —													
Vembanaad	142	0 11½ (5)											
Pattumalay	114	0 11½ (5)											
Wallardie	78	0 11½ (12)											
(c) <i>Coorg</i> —													
Glen Lorna	90	1 1½ (12)											
(d) <i>Kanan Devane</i> —													
Sevenmallay	30	1 5 (5)											
Thenmallay	114	1 3 (5)											
Chundavurrai	126	1 2½ (5)											
*Talliar	96	1 1 (12)											
(e) <i>Nilgiris</i> —													
Prospect	54	1 10½ (5)											
Pykara Falls	30	1 8 (12)											
Brooklands	96	1 2½ (12)											
* Do.	84	1 1½ (5)											
* Kodanad	100	1 0½ (12)											
(f) <i>South Travancore</i> —													
Poonmudi	54	1 0½ (12)											

* Where Invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 4,121	b 262,927	c 296,971
d 79,318	e 3,659,494	f 3,513,758
g 3,335	h 266,262	i 302,097
j 79,892	k 3,739,386	l 3,586,804

(B) RUBBER.—
The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, December 1, 1931, was 3½d.
London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, November 28, 1931, were 73,207 tons, a decrease of 1,115 tons on November 21, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, November 28, 1931, were 56,366 tons, an increase of 27 tons on November 21, 1931, inventory.

II. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

TEA.—The quantity catalogued on November 24, 1931, totalled 2,083,217 lbs. Although prices again declined, demand was more general and withdrawals were less numerous. **NUWARA ELIYA AND MATURATA.** Selection was rather limited and with quality falling away, rates showed an appreciable decline. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality was barely maintained but offerings met with better demand than of late. Broken Orange Pekoes declined 4 to 6 cents, but at this level sales were effected without difficulty, leaf grades were also in request but only at a drop of 2 to 3 cents. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Quality was about on a par with last week's offerings. All descriptions met with fair support and sold at an approximately similar decline to that established in the case of high grown teas. **LOW GROWN.** There was a useful demand for low grown teas though prices were in buyers' favour. Broken grades and Pekoes showed a decline of 1 to 3 cents but Orange Pekoes remained fully steady and in some cases marked an advance. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS** met with fairly active demand but only at a slightly lower range of prices.

RUBBER.—There was a good demand for the 100 tons offered at the Auction held on November 19, 1931, and there was only a very small variation in price on last week's sale. Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet of which there was not much on offer was in fair demand at 13 cents showing no change on last week's price. Fair and Off quality sorts sold at unchanged rates but Inferior sheet was a cent cheaper at -/09 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Contract Crepe was well competed for and was $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a cent dearer and Off Crepe also showed a rise being $\frac{1}{2}$ cent up but Mottled sorts were rather neglected and were unchanged in price. There was a good demand for all grades of Scrap Crepe which showed no change on last week's rates. Curly Scraps were again in good demand, No. 1 sorts being unchanged but the lower grades were $\frac{1}{4}$ th cent dearer.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

November 1, 1931, to November 14, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
1. Thuckalai...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	24. Coonoor ..	0·39	8·82	9·21
2. Kalthurity.	0·25	1·04	1·29	25. Kotagiri ..	0·38	2·90	3·28
3. Kallar B'dge.	0·65	2·87	3·52	26. Ootacamund ..	...	1·28	1·28
4. Koney ...	...	1·67	1·67	27. Yercaud ..	0·17	0·79	0·96
5. Pattanapura.	...	1·85	1·85	28. Mango Range ..	...	1·30	1·30
6. Kumbazha ..	...	1·83	1·83	29. Devala ..	...	N.R.	N.R.
6z Peravathan...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	30. Devashola ..	...	N.R.	N.R.
6b Aneikolam...	1·21	0·43	1·64	31. CALICUT ..	...	1·05	1·05
7. Peermade ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ..	...	0·33	0·33
8. Twyford ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	33. Vayltri ..	...	0·50	0·50
9. V'periyar ...	0·01	0·48	0·49	34. Manantoddi..	1·61	0·09	1·70
10. Kalaar ...	0·06	N.R.	N.R.	35. Billigiris ..	0·04	0·39	0·43
11. Chittuvurrai.	...	0·96	0·96	36. Sidapur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12. Bodh'KANUR	...	0·54	0·54	37. Ghatted Hulla	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	0·21	0·36	0·57	38. Pollibetta ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
14. Mooply ...	...	0·48	0·48	39. Somwarpett.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
15. Pachaimalai.	...	0·54	0·54	40. Saklaspur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
16. Mudis ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	41. Kadamanie ..	...	0·06	0·06
17. POLLACHIE	...	0·38	0·38	42. Balehonaur...	...	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy ...	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	43. Merthisub'gey	...	0·30	0·30
19. Karapara ...	0·09	...	0·09	44. Kelagur ..	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
20. Pullengode..	...	1·25	1·25	45. Durgadbettta.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
21. Nilambur ..	...	0·13	0·13	46. MANGALORE ..	...	0·05	0·05
22. Naduvattah	0·06	0·14	0·20	47. MADRAS ..	...	2·46	2·46
23. Nilgiri Peak	...	0·68	0·68				

N. R. No Return received.

Planters' Chronicle

Vol. XXVI, No. 26] December 19, 1931

[Price As. 5/-]

All communications to be addressed to the Editor

Post Box No. 155, MADRAS

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EDITORIAL

THE speech of Sir Charles McLeod published verbatim on Page 618 *et. seq.* makes out a strong case for Empire preference and is unique in the sense that for the first time a public plea for Empire Tea as a whole, has been made.

Tea—Empire Preference Sir Charles, after referring to the very serious position of many companies in India and Ceylon owing to losses mainly incurred through the dumping of Dutch-grown tea in the United Kingdom, asserts that no British Government worthy of the name will continue to allow a great Empire industry to be ruined by foreign dumping.

THE 'Buy British' campaign referred to in our Editorial notes of 5th December, was given a splendid send off by the broadcast address of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, and both from a British and Empire Marketing Board standpoint, the week was a memorable one. A wave of Imperialism is already beginning to sweep over the people of Great Britain and the extension of trade within the Empire will soon be a 'fait accompli'.

In this latest trade movement, the Empire Marketing Board has more than justified its existence and they are already actively engaged in preparations for the British Industries Fair which is still three months off. The space it will occupy at Olympia next year, will be greater than ever before and from details already received, it is evident that the producing countries of the Empire will have on view an even more striking and varied display of their products than on any previous occasion.

The effectiveness of the present campaign and its resultant outcome depend not only on the manufacturers and traders selling British goods but also on the people's will and determination to buy only British products and thanks to the considerable sums already spent in publicity, there is every

indication that this great appeal will prove eminently successful and give a tremendous fillip to Home and Empire production.

WITH this issue we complete another volume and take this opportunity of extending to our readers the compliments of the season. The past year has probably been unique for the troublous times Xmas 1931 and periods of acute depression through which the planting community of Southern India have had to pass, but there are already hopeful signs that improved conditions will prevail in the near future. May the next twelve months tell a different story and make our task easier when the time comes to conclude our next Volume.

A PLEA FOR EMPIRE TEA

Addressing the Fellows of the Royal Empire Society at a luncheon held on November 17, 1931, in the Cannon Street Hotel, Colonel Sir Weston Jarvis in the Chair, Sir Charles McLeod, Bt., said :—

'I believe that this occasion is unique in that, for the first time, a plea for the Empire tea industry as a whole, is being put forward at a public gathering.

I am speaking here to-day on behalf of the producers of tea in India, Ceylon and East Africa, who have united for the purpose of upholding their common interests.

The need for united action is urgent. For years past we have been suffering from a peculiarly insidious form of dumping, tea grown in the Dutch East Indies being sent here in increasing quantities and admitted free, while Holland imposes a duty of seven-pence per pound on tea reaching her ports. Up to the time Mr. Churchill abolished the tea duty, Empire tea enjoyed a small preference of two-thirds of a penny per pound, and since that small preference was taken away, enhanced imports of Dutch tea have taken place, with serious results to the plantation companies of the Empire.

Before coming to the unfortunate position in which so many tea companies in India and Ceylon find themselves at the present time, I should like to emphasize that all the requirements of the United Kingdom, and indeed of the Empire, can adequately be met by Empire-grown tea. In their report, issued a few months ago, the Imperial Economic Committee, an authoritative and impartial body which conducted an exhaustive enquiry into the production and marketing of tea, declared definitely that, from all the information before them, they were of opinion that the quantities, varieties and qualities of tea produced within the Empire were such that blends to suit almost any taste and almost any purse could be maintained from Empire teas alone. They further stated that the Empire product was for the most part a superior article, and, at its best, the finest in the world. The bulk of the Java and Sumatra teas, they said, were of a low grade, useful mainly as a cheapener or make-weight, and it was significant that they were never retailed by name in the United Kingdom.

Yet, although this country stands easily first in the ranks of tea consumers, there is a remarkable ignorance in the public mind in regard to the origin of the tea drunk here and of the contents of the blends which are placed on the market. Thus an enthusiastic lady who was anxious to respond to the appeal now being made by some of the most eminent

in this land, recently wrote and asked where she could buy good Empire China tea. It is a common experience, as you know, to be asked in hotels and tea-shops whether you will take Indian or China. If you demand the Indian product you may get a blend of Indian, Ceylon and Java tea; if your preference goes to the China article Heaven knows what may be served to you. There is the amusing story of the two ladies who, going into a tea-shop, ordered 'One pot of Indian tea and one of China, please.' The waitress, in her turn, called down to the kitchen: 'Two teas—one weak,' and it may well be imagined that the lady concerned, like any other people in similar circumstances, was satisfied that the weak beverage supplied to her was made from genuine China leaf.

As a matter of fact, the consumption of China tea in this country has been decreasing for many years past and, comparatively speaking, is now small. On the other hand, shipments from Java and Sumatra to the United Kingdom are causing a glut in the market, and this dumping has been especially marked during the past two or three years. A glance at the position in 1921 and 1930 respectively reveals a disquieting state of affairs. In the first-named year the retained imports of tea in the United Kingdom amounted to 412.8 million pounds, of which 380.2 million pounds, equivalent to over 92 per cent, were produced within the Empire. By 1930 the total had risen to 453 million pounds, but the Empire's share had fallen to 367.3 million pounds, or 85.7 per cent.

Now it is no light matter that an Empire industry should be affected in this way. And as the Imperial Economic Committee pointed out, Dutch-grown tea is never sold as such but is introduced into blends, so that the general public, while consuming it, have never heard of its existence.

I do not wish to weary you with quotations, but there are two here which I feel impelled to read in order to illustrate what the Empire tea industry means. In their report, the Imperial Economic Committee wrote:

'In less than a hundred years the British Empire has become the tea-garden and the tea-shop of the world. To-day, tea forms by value one per cent of all merchandise entering world trade. Over 70 per cent of that tea is produced and nearly 70 per cent of it is consumed within the Empire. Over two-thirds of the entire capital engaged in the production of tea are provided by the Empire. All the machinery employed in India and Ceylon in the manufacture of tea is of Empire origin. Over 60 per cent of the chests there used for its transport are imported from Empire countries. In production, manufacture, transport and distribution, tea is to an exceptional degree an Empire Industry.'

Again we have in the report of the Royal Commission in Agriculture in India, presided over by the Marquis of Linlithgow, striking testimony to what the tea industry has done for that country. The Commission reported in 1928, and in dealing with the plantations, wrote as follows:—

'Except in Bihar and Orissa, plantations are generally situated in remote districts of India, and, in addition to the economic benefit they confer on the community generally by the introduction of valuable crops, their presence is in many ways, direct and indirect, of great service to the population in their vicinity. Communications are improved, local agricultural practice is influenced by a good example, the wages paid to labour raise the general standard of living in the district, and in many cases, educational and medical facilities are provided.'

- Further, when, as is often the case, local labour is insufficient to meet requirements, plantations play a part in relieving congestion in distant areas by the immigrant labour they attract.'
- The Commissioners concluded with the declaration that the benefit 'which India owed to the planting community had not been adequately realized by the general public'.

This great industry, as I have indicated, has been, and is, suffering heavy losses which are mainly traceable to the dumping of Dutch-grown tea in the United Kingdom. For many months past, Empire tea has been selling at the Mincing Lane auctions at prices which do not nearly cover the bare cost of production, and as a result the position of many tea companies in India and Ceylon is very serious indeed. In a large number of cases the European staffs on the gardens have had to be materially reduced ; in others, the European employees have of necessity suffered substantial reductions of their remuneration. The number of Europeans engaged in the industry in India and Ceylon in normal times may be estimated at upwards of 5,000 and where reductions have been necessary, we have the tragic picture of men who have made tea cultivation and manufacture their life's work being thrown out of employment, and returning Home to swell the ranks of the unemployed here.

As regards native labour, the total number of persons engaged in tea production in India is, in round figures, 932,500 and it is estimated that an additional 592,000 are at work in the Ceylon gardens. The slump in tea has meant serious loss to these labourers; in fact, it is no exaggeration to say that the bulk of those employed in Cachar and Sylhet, numbering 180,000 are in danger of losing their employment altogether, while all of them have had to submit to a reduction in their earnings. Significant information on this phase of the problem is forthcoming from the Government of Assam, who in March last sent a communication to the Government of India urging that the Secretary of State should be asked to agree to the granting of a preferential duty to Empire tea. They stated that the position of the tea industry, on which Assam was largely dependent, was undoubtedly grave, and that a letter which they had received from the Indian Tea Association on the subject, gave no exaggerated description of the position and its future possibilities. At present, the cessation, by a number of gardens, of employing ex-tea-garden labourers who had taken up land near the tea estates had contributed to a marked decrease in the land revenue of the Province. The condition of those labourers who had no land or capital to start reclamation but who might have to be discharged from tea-gardens would be a very formidable problem for the Assam Government. Pending a definite improvement in the price of tea the Government were faced with an inevitable reduction of revenue and the postponement of all schemes of improvement suggested by the Royal Commission on Labour in India.

At a Conference with the representatives of the tea industry, Sir Laurie Hammond, the Governor of the Province, referring to the refusal of the Labour Ministry to agree to the request for a preferential duty for Empire tea, stated that with the change of Government at Home, they had again advanced this request and he went on to say that preference would benefit not merely the tea industry but the Province as a whole, as well as that population who came there from other provinces in search of work, which, as the Royal Commission saw, provided them with a livelihood and a rise in the standard of living far superior to that obtainable in their own districts.

In addition to the loss of employment and the reduction of pay in the countries of production, we have the absence of dividends, which affects thousands of shareholders here, and involves a decrease in the receipts of the British Exchequer in the shape of income-tax. Again, at a time when unemployment is inflicting serious hardships on the working classes in this country and is draining the public funds, there is a falling off in the orders given to manufacturing firms here which supply the gardens with machinery, agricultural tools and other requisites.

The case for taxing foreign-grown tea is so strong that no arguments worthy of the name can be adduced against it. The suggestion was however advanced a month or two ago that, if this course were adopted, the investors of British capital in tea in Java and Sumatra would inevitably suffer. Now the amount of this capital is between £4 million and £5 million, and what is that in comparison with the £76 million of British capital invested in the tea industry in India and Ceylon? Besides, how can those who are producing tea with foreign labour in the overseas possessions of a country which levies a heavy duty on imported tea, expect the same treatment as the investors whose money is utilized in growing tea within the Empire and is giving employment to British subjects in India and Ceylon as well as to large numbers of workmen in the Mother Country?

Another criticism recently put forward relates to the question of over-production. When this matter is examined, the effect of the dumping of Dutch-grown tea becomes more prominent. The increase in the crop in India since 1910, has amounted to 65 per cent, and in Ceylon to 39 per cent. But Java and Sumatra have in the meantime increased their output by 400 per cent, and in 1930 the retained imports of foreign tea in the United Kingdom amounted to 85·7 million pounds, as compared with 32·6 million pounds in 1921. An agreement was arrived at between the producing companies for a restriction of output in 1930, under which India and Ceylon undertook to reduce their crops by 47½ million pounds, and Java and Sumatra by 10 million pounds. In actual fact, the Empire crops were reduced by 57½ million pounds, while those of Java and Sumatra declined by only one million pounds, so the less the champions of these islands say about over-production, the better.

Empire tea, as I have said, is sold in Mincing Lane to-day at prices which do not cover the costs of production, and yet when a small recovery recently took place, a statement was made to the effect that the rise was unjustified and undesirable, especially as the Government were particularly anxious to prevent a rise in the prices of food. I venture to assert that no British Government worthy of the name could wish to see a great Empire industry ruined by foreign dumping. British agriculture is in a parlous condition largely owing to the same cause, and all parties in this country rightly profess themselves anxious to place that industry on a profitable basis. The analogy in the case of tea is indeed a perfect one.

There is no question that, if the present condition of affairs should continue, extensive areas now under tea must inevitably go out of cultivation and consumers would find that a period of abnormally low prices would cost them dear in the long run. It should be emphasized that the producers have no control over the prices of tea, wholesale or retail. The bulk of the crops are sold by public auction, and the price is regulated by the distributors who constitute the buyers. The growers, therefore, could not indulge in the evil practice of profiteering, even if they desired to do so, which is far from being the case.

It has been said with truth that, with the exception of water, tea is the cheapest drink in the world. Actual experiments have shown that a pound of good medium Empire tea will yield 280 ordinary tea-cups full of a refreshing beverage, or 140 breakfast-cups holding half a pint each. So that seventy pints of tea can be obtained from a pound of leaf selling retail at, say, ls. 8d. a pound, and there is therefore no substance in the argument that a small advance in price would inflict hardship even on the poorer classes. Here is the reply to the objection sometimes urged against the taxing of foreign tea. We can imagine the beatific smile that would light up the honest countenance of the British workman if he suddenly found that a penny would buy him three and a half pints of his favourite beer.

In a speech in the House of Commons on the revised Budget proposals in September of this year, Mr. Churchill contended that the tea duty which he removed should be re-imposed, and that it would have yielded the Exchequer £6 million without raising the price of tea above what it was in 1928. So far as Empire producers are concerned, we are ready to agree to the imposition of a duty, provided substantial preference is given to Empire tea. That preference, I have shown, is urgently needed, and it is impossible to imagine that it will not be forthcoming from the National Government.

You may perhaps recall that the Empire tea-producing countries applied for a Marking Order under the Merchandise Marks Act, so as to enable the purchaser to exercise an option in favour of Empire tea. That application was not successful, but the Empire producers have now launched a campaign in this country which, if properly supported, will be of great benefit not only to India, Ceylon and East Africa, but to Britain as well. Most of the great distributing houses have patriotically joined in the movement and have placed on the market packets distinctly labelled *Empire Grown Tea*. The grocery trade are also participating most loyally, and through their various organizations have undertaken to do everything in their power to make the campaign a success. It is now for the consumers to play their part and so respond whole-heartedly to the eloquent appeals to *Buy Empire Goods*, which have been forthcoming from our leading Statesmen and other personages of eminence.

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WHAT ARE QUALITY TEAS?

In these days of the 'Slump' the prices of all teas have fallen. But quality teas still command prices over and above cost of production. What are quality teas, and how are they produced is perhaps an interesting question?

Of course, quality tea must have flavour, aroma, and must be attractive in appearance: how are these three requisites obtained? By careful plucking and manufacture you will say: yes, but you will be surprised when you learn that the most careful plucking, and the most stringent manufacture cannot produce quality tea from leaf plucked on medium and low elevations.

To get quality tea, high elevation is absolutely a *sine qua non*. High elevation means flavour, and by high elevation I mean anything from 4,000 feet to 7,000 feet. 8,000 feet is too high for anything except a China Hybrid because, at 8,000 feet you get frost, and frost burns up the delicate 'fish'. The China Hybrid being a hardy tough species, can and does resist frost, where the Assam variety would simply go under.

By the way a good 'fat' of China makes a very flavoursome tea, and a blend of China and Assam makes a tea which is very hard to beat: but here

too elevation, high elevation, is necessary. Medium and low elevations give quantity but never quality. Of course you get a passable tea, a sellable tea, but never a quality tea. Quantity makes up for quality, and if the market is favourable these teas sell—at a price. How many of the public I wonder would know a quality tea?

Could you go to a Factory, and by looking at the various grades, pick a quality tea? More could you by tasting and examining various liquors, pick a quality liquor? The various grades made are, Souchong, Pekoe, Broken Pekoe, Orange Pekoe, Broken Orange Pekoe, Fannings and Dust. Let us examine these for their characteristics.

The first three (whether grown at high and low elevation always remembering that with the former you will get more flavour) are strong teas : tea, with a 'kick'.

The Orange Pekoe is above all, the tea with most flavour ; it is too, a most attractive looking tea with its orange tips ; hence of course its name. Broken Orange Pekoe is also flavours, but not so much so as Orange Pekoe, it is stronger—more bite ; it too is attractive in appearance having the golden orange tips, but is a much smaller tea ; it is not a leaf grade, the leaf having been broken in manufacture : hence its name.

Fannings and Dust are the strongest of the grades ; Dust having more 'kick' than Fannings.

These are the grades commonly made in most Factories, but how often I wonder are they sold to the public in these true forms ?

BLENDING

The Estate sends the teas away to the Market packed according to their various grades ; Orange Pekoe, Broken Orange Pekoe, etc. Here they are brought by some great Firm or Merchant. Does this great Firm or Merchant sell these teas to the public in their true form, Orange Pekoe, Broken Orange Pekoe, etc.? In a great many cases, No ; they are blended, and this blend is put on the Market labelled 'X's Finest Family Mixture' or some such name, and is sold at a price which the true Orange Pekoe, or Broken Orange Pekoe could never be sold at! What does the Housewife care? She gets a tea at a price she can spare, and it makes a hot liquid with a colour like tea, she has never seen, let alone tasted a true high elevation Orange Pekoe, so she is satisfied. 'Where ignorance is bliss' But why not educate the public to quality teas? Once this is done, I doubt if the inferior article would be in demand and sell as it does now.

JAVA TEAS

Java with the same acreage can produce twice the quantity of tea that can South India, and the labour being cheaper, the cost of production is also less. But these teas are not quality teas : they are cheap low elevation teas which a connoisseur would not have at any price.

But the housewife buys them because they are cheap, and because as I have said before, she in all probability does not know what a quality tea is.

If she did, I wonder if she would go on buying Java teas? Anyway, I am sure the Upper and Lower Middle classes would not : At the moment they don't know, and are content with 'X's Finest Family Mixture' or 'Java's Dust like Tea' price is 2d. per lb.! My contention is that with propaganda quality teas could be made known to the Great Public at Home, in the Dominions and elsewhere, and this would benefit the Tea Trade as a whole.—'Red Palmer' in the Madras Mail of 25th November, 1931.

THE ADULTERATION OF TEA

BY

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PART II

(Continued from page 600 of our last issue)

SOLUBLE EXTRACT OF TEA.

Failure to introduce any mention of the soluble ingredients of tea, in particular, theotannin, is probably the most striking aspect of the Rules given in the Madras Act III for the Prevention of Adulteration of Tea. Theotannin is the substance of paramount importance in judging a tea, yet no value is given to indicate its minimum content in a standard tea. The omission is obviously due to an inadequate knowledge of the chemistry of Tea, but as the result of researches carried out in this laboratory, a method is available for standardizing tea according to its theotannin content. The soluble extract and theotannin are given greater significance in the proposed modifications of the Rules. The characteristics of a Tea which are peculiar to tea, viz. Ash, Soluble solids, Theotannin and Manganese are discussed separately hereunder, with respect to their employment as standards for genuine tea.

1. ASH CONTENT.**(a) Ash insoluble in dilute Nitric Acid (1 : 5).**

It is recommended that the better grades of tea be confined to an ash content, insoluble in dilute nitric acid (1 : 5), of under 0.5 per cent calculated on the dry sample of tea. The present rules state insoluble in 'dilute mineral Acid' but since Sulphuric Acid would give different results to that using nitric acid, owing to the presence of a certain percentage of alkali metals, such as Calcium forming insoluble Sulphates but soluble Nitrates. It is considered therefore necessary to define the acid used. In the cases of the poorer grades, viz., the fannings and dusts, this figure might be raised to 3 per cent to meet the cases in which sand may unavoidably be included. Sand is a perfectly innocuous ingredient, and, apart from a drop in the actual weight of true tea grade obtained, would not yield an infusion with any detrimental characteristics or one productive of subsequent pathological results.

(b) Ash soluble in dilute Nitric Acid (1 : 5).

The total Ash in the better grades of tea should be completely soluble in dilute nitric acid (1 : 5). It is only in the case of Dusts that a certain portion of siliceous material is to be found, which would give any appreciable figure significant enough to be determined.

This characteristic of true tea ash, viz. complete solubility in dilute Nitric Acid, is a most important one, since it is felt that its limits could be set within such narrow limits as to defy attempts at adulteration. It will be seen that the limits recommended later are between 5 and 6 per cent. A

glance at the Table however shows the percentage of ash soluble in nitric acid to be fairly consistent around the 5·8 per cent mark. Further experiment, it is believed, will enable the limits to be set between 5·5 to 6·0 per cent.

The standardization of the acid-soluble ash to within close limits would indicate an old or stale tea, since this ash would increase to over 6 per cent, presumably owing to the elimination of a certain amount of the organic material or keeping. It would also act as an indication as to whether the tea sample contains portions of the flush unsuitable for manufacture, or whether it contains added substances such as soluble carbonates. Foreign leaves, such as those of *Gaultheria*, it is considered, would also be exposed by this test, and also previously infused tea leaves.

The total ash is not considered of importance except as a means of arriving at the values for percentage soluble in dilute nitric acid, and percentage insoluble in this reagent. Its elimination as a test ensures that a tea is not prosecuted on two accounts, when it is really only at fault on one.

The Writer is unwilling to attach any importance to the percentage ash soluble in water, but prefers to consider the percentage of 'soluble solids' and its ash content.

2. SOLUBLE SOLIDS.

(a) Percentage soluble solids.

This is obviously important since it is the soluble fraction of tea which represents the potable portion. A glance at the Table appended indicates that in the case of the suitable teas (bearing in mind the demand for the minimum amount of iodimetric 'totals' equivalent already given), the percentage of soluble solids is over 40 per cent, calculated on the dry sample. In the case of the teas indicating a percentage of soluble solids appreciably less than 40 per cent, they are old and stale, or are produced from poor leaf. It is suggested that the limit for standard teas should be 40 per cent of soluble solids, though in view of the limited data for this value, and the necessity of investigating leaf grades such as Orange Pekoe, it might be deemed more satisfactory to reduce this limit to 38 per cent.

(b) Percentage Ash of Soluble solids.

The importance of regulating the percentage Ash of the soluble solids is bound up in the observation that the addition of soluble organic solids, e.g. certain carbohydrates, in order to increase the percentage soluble solids, or soluble inorganic solids, e.g. sodium bicarbonate added to increase the production of colour, would be detected.

If we note the figures for the percentage ash of the soluble solids derived from fresh teas given on the Table, this percentage ash varies between 9·16 per cent and 10·9 per cent. It is suggested therefore that the limits for this percentage in a standard tea might be 9·11 per cent, with a leniency of $\pm 0\cdot1$ per cent.

From a study of the figures for the stale teas (Estate 4, A, B, and Big Bulk), it would appear that whereas the percentage of soluble solids drops below the 38 per cent limit, the ash of the soluble solids increases up to 13·2 per cent. It argues that in the case of stale teas the soluble solids decrease, but the inorganic ingredients remain standard, and hence the percentage of the latter expressed in terms of the former increases. A rule demanding a limited percentage ash in the standard tea, would thus ensure the elimination of stale teas.

The inclusion of limits to the percentage ash of the soluble solids, though recommending itself, is one however which cannot be accepted at present owing to the very limited amount of data. For this reason, it has not been included in the list of suggested Rules for a standard tea, though it is considered not too much to prophesy that a correlation between the percentage Ash and the amount of soluble solids will act as a contributory guide to the detection of deteriorated and adulterated teas.

(c) *Ash of soluble solids as percentage of total Ash.*

We are unwilling to attach any importance to this chemical correlation, for if we glance at the figures given for this correlation, it will be noted that they give no significant difference between good or stale teas, and would again introduce the influence of any siliceous material present in the total Ash.

3. THEOTANNIN CONTENT.

The theotannin content of 'black teas' is responsible for the 'reducing' activity of tea, and since it is the main contributor to the desirable qualities in a tea infusion, it seems to the writer that in determining the value of a tea, its theotannin content should be the factor of paramount importance.

IODIMETRIC 'TOTALS' EQUIVALENT AS LIMITING MINIMUM OF A STANDARD TEA.

An iodimetric method of assaying tannin in tea has been devised by the Writer, which consists essentially in determining the total reducing substances in terms of N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate, precipitating the theotannin (a reducing substance), and ascertaining its reducing properties by difference between the 'totals' and the reducing value of filtrate. The equivalent of the 'totals' in the case of green leaf is a direct measure of the amount of tannin, but in the instance of 'black tea' it also includes a measure of the degree of oxygenation which has taken place during manufacture. Too high a degree of oxygenation may render the tea unpalatable, and it seemed to the Writer that the iodimetric 'totals' equivalent in terms of ccs. N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate per 0·1 gram of dry sample would be a useful criterion in determining the value of tea.

In the following paragraphs 'iodimetric totals equivalent' signifies the number of cubic centimetres of iodine (expressed in terms of N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate) required to oxidize the theotannin derivatives extracted from 0·1 gram of the dried sample of tea.

The iodimetric 'totals' equivalents obtained for 33 samples of South Indian Teas gave values of over 20 ccs. in 31 cases, the two exceptions being a leaf grade (Orange Pekoe) and a Big Bulk sample. Out of 25 samples of Ceylon Tea, 21 gave values of over 20 ccs.; 3 values between 19 and 20 ccs.; and one of 17·90 ccs. The latter represented the 'coarse bulk' of an estate after the separation in the form of Dhools of some 95 per cent of the best quality portions of the leaf. It is felt therefore that a reasonable minimum value for the 'iodimetric totals equivalent' of a tea should be 18 ccs. N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate per 0·1 gram of dry sample.

PREVENTION OF IMPORTATION OF INFERIOR FOREIGN GRADES OF TEA.

An important advantage of such a standard would also be the prevention of the sale of inferior foreign grades of tea, in the guise of South Indian teas. Thus the analysis of 26 Java teas, gave 11 with iodimetric 'totals' equivalents over 20 ccs. and 8 under 18 ccs. The latter would therefore not

'conform' with the proposed 'standard for South Indian Teas, and thus a rule prohibiting the importation of foreign teas with an 'iodimetric total equivalent' of less than 18 ccs. would, one feels sure, tend to discourage the influx of inferior grades from foreign tea-planting areas. Such importation could then only be done in accordance with Provision (iii), Section 5 of the Madras Act III of 1918 for the prevention of adulteration, which requires the labelling of such inferior grades, to indicate to the purchaser, the inferiority of the quality. It would most certainly act as a protection against inferior foreign teas being sold as if they were prepared in local factories, and the reputation of South Indian teas would thus not be exposed to the risk of disparagement.

PROMOTION OF SALE OF TEA IN INDIA.

The setting of a theotannin standard would also act as a stimulant in promoting the sale of locally manufactured teas in India. The general practice, with the possible exception of proprietary estates, is to send the majority of the grades of tea to the London Market, those grades of inferior quality being retained and an endeavour made to sell them in local bazaars. These grades are usually ones which produce very little of the real aesthetic characteristics of tea infused from a good grade tea; they may or may not give colour in an infusion and they may or may not possess body. Evidence points definitely towards these lower grades lacking in such desirable qualities as pungency and flavour.

Thus, if we consider the 'iodimetric totals equivalents' of the alleged adulterated samples given in the Table appended as against those for fresh samples, we find the values of the alleged adulterated samples lie between the 14 and 15 ccs. limits. With the further exception of Estate 4, No. 2 Dust grade, the remainder are all above the 18 ccs. mark. It is suggested therefore that the No. 2 dusts from Estates 1, 2, and 3 and grades derived from the 'small bulk' of Estate 4 are suitable for sale, whereas the remainder should be proscribed as not conforming to an easy standard for tea.

In support of the contention of the 18 ccs. iodimetric 'totals' equivalent being taken as a standard, it will be noted from the Table that all those samples showing an equivalent above this standard are teas which give over 40 per cent of soluble extract, those showing less than 18 ccs. standard giving less than 40 per cent soluble extract. Since it is the soluble extract through its content of theotannin derivatives which determines the qualities of the tea infusion, and since the 'iodimetric totals equivalent' is a measure as to whether the soluble extract is above 40 or below 40 per cent it suggests that the 'totals' may well be taken as the standard, since it may be determined rapidly, easily and accurately.

As a second support of the contention, it must be pointed out that analytical figures determined in this laboratory prove that, excepting the bud, first and second leaves of the tea plant, there is a rapid decline in the 'iodimetric totals equivalent' as one proceeds to the older leaves, the stalk containing less than half the reducing bodies (theotannin) than the first leaf. The 'iodimetric totals equivalent' therefore set at a minimum of 18 ccs. enstres that the best leaves are being employed in manufacture to the exclusion of those with inferior qualities.

Let us consider the case of the No. 2 dust of Estate 3. According to the existing standards of adulteration, it would be proscribed as adulterated, and the estate or vendor could be prosecuted. Yet it contains a 'soluble extract' of 42.70 per cent. iodimetric 'totals' equivalent of 22.80 cc N/20

Sodium Thiosulphate, and a standard total Ash content (after correcting for the content of sand). In every way it would be considered an extraordinarily fine No. 2 dust, but owing to the unavoidable presence of a small percentage of sand it would render the vendor liable under Act III. In other words the 'iodimetric totals equivalent' is probably the most reliable indication of a tea suitable for marketing purposes.

It must be pointed out that the addition of alkali carbonates as active adulterants would be detected by the iodimetric 'totals' equivalent, since it would result in an immediate drop in this value to an appreciable extent.

Details of the technique to be employed in determining the 'iodimetric totals equivalent' are given later.

4. MANGANESE.

A comparatively high percentage of Manganese is a noteworthy characteristic of tea. Wynter Blyth (Analyst. 1878 2 39) proposed utilizing the Manganese content of tea as a means of recognition, but it will be clear that without a quantitative estimation, the test would be invalid as a means of detecting the addition of the leaves of *Camellia Japonica*, *C. Sasanqua* or *Coffea Arabica*, which also contain appreciable amounts of manganese. The total Manganese in tea is further a variable quantity depending most probably upon the acidity of the soil, the presence of Manganese in varying quantities in the soil and the general physiological activities of the tea bushes.

RELATIONSHIP OF SOLUBLE MANGANESE TO TOTAL MANGANESE AS AN INDICATION OF A STANDARD TEA.

If, however, a comparison is made between the soluble Manganese in tea and the total Manganese, an interesting relationship is found, which could be utilized as a means of standardizing tea. A glance at the Table showing the soluble Manganese as a percentage of the total Manganese indicates this to be over 50 per cent in the case of the good teas, and under 45 per cent in the case of the poor teas. Further determinations of this relationship on a number of samples indicate it to be a consistent one and one feels it should be included in an analysis for ascertaining whether a sample of a tea is standard.

It is considered therefore that a standard tea should contain not less than 45 per cent of its total Manganese in the soluble form.

PROPOSED RULES

To sum up the chemical characteristics proposed as indicative of a standard tea, the following may be given in the form of appropriate rules :—

1. Ash insoluble in warm dilute HNO ₃ (1 : 5)	High Grades not greater than 0·5 per cent. Dusts and Fannings not greater than 3·0 per cent.
2. Ash soluble in warm dilute Nitric acid (1 : 5)	
3. Soluble Solids	5·0 per cent to 6·0 per cent. Not less than 38 per cent.
4. Iodimetric 'totals' equivalent	18·00 ccs. N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate per 0·10 grams dry sample.
5. <u>Soluble Manganese × 100</u> <u>Total Manganese</u>	Not less than 45 per cent.

COST OF ANALYSIS OF TEA

A communication received from a Planter indicated that the cost of having three samples of tea analysed with respect to their ash content was Rs. 40. The analysis of three samples of tea for ash could readily be carried out during a period of some three hours by a worker with no high qualifications in Chemistry. A Matriculation student would find no difficulty in the work. The chemicals utilized are negligible, consisting only of a small quantity of dilute mineral acid, probably the cheapest chemical available. Rs. 5, it is suggested, would easily cover the cost of the three analyses. It is felt that the fee for analysing Tea samples should therefore be made to conform more to the costs of the analysis, instead of an arbitrary, and one considers in this case, exorbitant value being placed on it.

ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUE RECOMMENDED

The sample is ground up to a powder in a pestle and mortar.

1. MOISTURE.—Two grams of the sample are dried in a steam oven to constant weight, the loss in weight being expressed as a percentage of the sample taken.

2. (a) TOTAL ASH.—One gram of the sample is weighed out into a weighed porcelain dish of 50 ccs. capacity, and incinerated over a burner (not necessarily in a muffle furnace). Ashing proceeds rapidly, but certain refractory particles remain. Cool, and moisten the ash with a few drops of water, shake to mix up the contents of the dish thoroughly. Evaporate the water off by holding the dish high up over a gauze, and finally heat strongly. An ash free from Carbon particles may thus be obtained in half an hour. Cool and weigh. Let the weight of the ash be (a) grams.

(b) ASH INSOLUBLE IN DILUTE NITRIC ACID (1 : 5)

Twenty ccs. of nitric acid (1 : 5) are added to the ash in the dish, and gently boiled to ensure the solution of the Manganese. Filter through an ashless filter paper (No. 42 Whatman), the filtrate being caught in a 200 ccs. graduated flask. The residue, if any, in the filter paper is washed thoroughly with hot water, the washings being also caught in the 200 ccs. flask. (This is utilized for the determination of total Manganese.)

The filter paper and residue are transferred to the dish again and incinerated, the dish cooled in a desicator and weighed. Let the weight of the insoluble ash be (b) grams.

(c) ASH SOLUBLE IN DILUTE NITRIC ACID (1 : 5).

The weight of Ash soluble in dilute nitric acid (1 : 5) is thus (a)—(b) grams. Its percentage expressed on the original sample is (a—b) 100. Correcting for the moisture content, the value of (a—b) 100 should not exceed the limits of 5–6 per cent.

3. SOLUBLE SOLIDS.

2·5 grams of the sample are added to 400 ccs. of boiling water, and gently boiled under a reflux condenser for 45 minutes. The infusion and washing are poured through cotton wool into a 500 ccs. graduated flask; the flask is cooled and the solution made up to the mark. The solution is then filtered through a fluted filter paper, the first filtrate being refiltered in order to ensure a bright and unclouded filtrate.

(This solution is also utilized for the determination of iodimetric 'totals' equivalent as given in section 5 hereunder.)

200 ccs. of the filtrate, equivalent to 1 gram of the sample, are evaporated on a water bath to dryness in a porcelain dish. It is advisable

to evaporate 100 ccs. first of all, adding the second 100 ccs. subsequently. The dish and contents are dried in the steam oven, cooled and weighed, from which the weight of the soluble solids may be ascertained, and its percentage calculated. It should conform to suggested Rule 3, i.e., a percentage greater than 38 per cent.

4. ASH OF SOLUBLE SOLIDS.

The contents of the dish are then incinerated. It is at this stage that the advantage of moistening the incompletely ashed residue is found, since the flakes containing carbonaceous matter are very resistant to complete ashing. The moistening may require repetition before complete ashing has been accomplished. The weight of the ash is then ascertained in the usual manner, and its percentage of the soluble solids calculated. No correction is required for the moisture content of the original sample of tea in this case. The utilization of this value for detecting adulteration requires further investigation.

5. IODIMETRIC 'TOTALS' EQUIVALENT.

Twenty ccs. of the infusion which are equivalent to 0·1 gram of the tea sample are pipetted into a flask of 1,000 ccs. capacity, and 20 ccs. of approximately N/10 Iodine are added. 13 ccs. of a caustic soda solution [containing 40 grams NaOH (within 1 per cent) per 100 ccs.] are added rapidly with shaking at zero time according to the seconds hand of a watch. Exactly 15 minutes later (according to the seconds hand), 25 ccs. of a Sulphuric acid solution (containing 40 ccs. concentrated H_2SO_4 per Litre) are added rapidly with shaking. 600 ccs. of water are added, and the liberated iodine determined by means of standard N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate. Let this value be (n) ccs. N/20 Thio. The value of the 20 ccs. Iodine alone is determined in terms of ccs. N/20 Sodium Thiosulphate in exactly the same way. Let (m) ccs. be the value of the Iodine alone.

The iodimetric 'totals' equivalent of 20 ccs. of the infusion, equal to 0·100 grams of the sample, is then ($m-n$) ccs. N/20 Thio. Correcting for the moisture content of the sample, the iodimetric 'totals' equivalent of 0·1 gram of the dry sample is obtained. This value should conform with the minimum value given in suggested Rule 4.

6. SOLUBLE MANGANESE AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MANGANESE

100 ccs. of the filtrate contained in the 200 ccs. flask resulting from the determination of the acid-insoluble ash are pipetted into a beaker. It contains 10 ccs. of nitric acid (1 : 5), 2·4 ccs. of 85 per cent phosphoric acid are added, and the whole brought to the boil. 10 ccs. of silver nitrate (containing 1·5 grams $AgNO_3$ per 1,000 ccs.) are added, and the whole boiled till the bulk is reduced to between 80–90 ccs. 10 ccs. of a freshly prepared solution of Ammonium Persulphate, containing 1 gram of the salt per 10 ccs. are then added slowly, and the solution boiled for a few minutes. The colour of the permanganate develops, and the solution is cooled, and made up to the 100 ccs. mark in a Nessler Cylinder, and is ready for comparison with the soluble manganese.

To the ash of the soluble solids, 10 ccs. dilute nitric acid (1 : 5) are added, and the solution brought carefully to the boil. It is filtered if necessary and washed until the filtrate and washings amount to some 80–90 ccs. in bulk. Phosphoric acid, silver nitrate and ammonium persulphate are added in amounts already given, and by the same procedure, the solution being ultimately cooled, and made up to the 100 ccs. mark in a Nessler Cylinder and the colour compared with that of the 'total' Manganese.

Since the soluble manganese colour is the equivalent of 1 gram of the original sample, and 100 ccs. of 'total' manganese is equivalent to 0·5 gram of the original sample, then the comparison of the colour in these cases should be almost identical, the soluble manganese colour being usually greater than that of the total manganese colour under the conditions given. If in standardizing the colours in the two Nessler Cylinders it is found necessary to remove more than 10 ccs. from the 'totals' manganese cylinder, then the tea would not conform with the suggested Rule 6 for a standard tea.

Note.—If the total ash exhibits a marked brown colour, a high percentage of Manganese may be suspected, and it would then be advisable to utilize 50 ccs. of the filtrate in place of 100 ccs. for total Manganese, and the soluble Manganese should be made up to 200 ccs. and 100 ccs. taken for soluble Manganese determination. It is essential that 10 ccs. Nitric acid should be present in the solution, before developing the colour.

CONCLUSION.

It is readily admitted that the evidence obtained, consisting of complete analyses of seven teas, and partial analyses on a number of other samples of tea, may be considered as insufficient to be sure that the limits given in the Rules are fair to the Planter, the merchant and the consumer. The evidence, however, so far obtained appears to support the contentions made.

It is considered advisable, however, that a Chemist should be delegated by the Madras Government to carry out an extensive series of analyses on tea samples received from the various areas under tea cultivation in South India. A large amount of data could be accumulated on the lines indicated over a period of three to six months, and would offer evidence of an incontrovertible nature from which confirmation of the proposed Rules could be obtained, or necessary modification thereof instituted.

The probability of the suggestions regarding the Chemical characteristics of a Standard tea being of value to those engaged in the promotion of the sale of tea in India and in other countries will be evident. Attempts to encourage the use of an article would be rendered futile if the article did not adhere to a prescribed standard.

Provided a good tea were assured, it is easily conceivable that those being educated in its use, would come to appreciate the qualities inherent in an infusion of a good quality tea. It would most certainly encourage them to repeat the attempt. The reverse state of affairs, that is, the use of inferior grades of tea, would act not only as a deterrent to further attempts to use tea, but may render the suggestion of tea-drinking repugnant.

The standardization of tea in such a way as to prevent the importation of inferior grades of tea from foreign countries, would undoubtedly commend itself to South Indian Tea Planters, and almost certainly to Ceylon Planters, for reasons which will be evident.

It is further felt that the reduction of the cost of the analysis of a sample of tea to a reasonable amount would encourage Planters to have their teas analysed. The present exorbitant rate of Rs. 40 per 3 samples, the analysis of which as pointed out would take a laboratory assistant probably a day to execute, would most certainly restrain a Planter from having the analyses of his teas carried out.

It is hoped that the material contained in this Memorandum will convey the essential demand for modifying the Rules for the Prevention of Adulteration of Tea, ensure protection for South Indian teas against the inroads of foreign inferior teas, and assist in maintaining a tea of reasonable standard for the encouragement of the sale of tea in India.

W. S. SHAW.

TEA MANUFACTURE: ITS THEORY AND PRACTICE IN CEYLON

by

H. J. MOPPETT

Second Edition, pp. 108, Colombo : The Times of Ceylon Co., Ltd., 1931, Rs. 9.
Reviewed by

K. B. W. JONES, A.R.C.S.C., B.Sc., A.I.C.

U.P.A.S.I., Asst. Tea Scientific Officer.

The publication of a second edition of this book, relatively shortly after the first is ample testimony as to its value. The excellent reception given to the first edition and requiring the appearance of a second edition is fully revealed in the statement in the Author's preface, which reads ". . . that this book has been out of print for some months owing to lack of opportunity to undertake the revision called for".

In meeting the demand for a second edition, however, Mr. Moppett has not merely revised the text, but has extended the subject-matter, particularly the chapter dealing with withering. An extra appendix, giving a table of relative humidities, is included.

The arrangement of the subject-matter follows that of the first edition. The chapters deal with,—a brief explanation of the Processes of tea manufacture, Treatment of the leaf in the field, Withering, Rolling, Fermenting, Firing, Sifting, Packing, and General observations. Six appendices are included, dealing with the conditions of sale of tea in London and in Colombo; native Ceylon woods suitable for tea-chests; a specimen record of manufacture; a table of relative humidities; and a specimen of a Colombo Tea catalogue. General Notes following these appendices form a valuable summary of the most important hints on the manufacturing process.

In the preface to the Second Edition, Mr. Moppett points out that he has retained certain of the theories of Indian Scientific investigations, despite much published criticism of these by the Ceylon Research Department, since no more definite information has been offered by this Department in exchange. Throughout his book Mr. Moppett has made a praiseworthy attempt to present the chemical explanation of the observed facts in relation to each stage of manufacture.

With the possible exception of Dr. Mann's work on the withering and fermentation of tea, it is difficult to find any instance where chemical theories have, up to the present, been of any constructive or progressive value. Even in the two instances cited, Dr. Mann's results cannot be directly applied to conditions in either Ceylon or South India. Hence one is led to conclude that the introduction of these theories is of little significance, particularly in comparison with the excellent value of the remaining subject-matter presented.

This book is of especial interest to South Indian readers since it gives an account of manufacture under conditions closely allied to those in South India. A comparison of the details of tea manufacture in Ceylon as given by Mr. Moppett with those given by Carpenter and Harrison's book on 'Tea Manufacture in North-East India' readily reveals the vast difference between the procedure adopted in Ceylon and in North East India. Differences between South Indian and Ceylon manufacture though of not so marked a character, are nevertheless as real.

The chapter on withering should prove of great value to Planters who are still acquiring the technique involved in the manipulation of 'Reversible' and 'Alternating' systems. It is noteworthy that although the importance of a 'Chemical' wither is commented upon, the author wisely refrains from giving any empirical test for judging the progress of this. It is strange to note that there is no reference to all-wire tats.

Rolling is fully discussed, and rolling programmes given are suitable for different types of leaf and for stressing particular characteristics in the final product.

The chapter on fermentation gives a general idea of the conditions which should obtain during this stage, but at the same time the Author displays commendable caution in avoiding hard and fast rules. A large number of helpful suggestions are made, one or more of which would be found by tea makers in South India to be of value if incorporated in their methods of fermentation at present employed. The remarks on cleanliness, for example, are especially noteworthy, particularly the statement that it is advisable to avoid the regular use of disinfectants on porous fermenting surfaces unless it is apparent that some action deleterious to fermentation is taking place on the fermenting surfaces. The Author suggests the use of the alkaline wash known as 'Milton', for disinfection when this is absolutely necessary, and points out the necessity for thoroughly washing out the disinfectant afterwards. To wash out such an alkali from a porous surface would, however, represent a much more difficult problem than might be supposed.

Suitable positions for hygrometers are adequately discussed but the Author is probably in error in indicating that the hygrometer readings are not reliable if the air is still. Movement of the hygrometers as recommended, would produce changes owing to increased evaporation from the bulb of the 'wet' thermometer, which would not then give a true reflection of the conditions of humidity prevalent.

The subject of firing is also very competently treated and the table showing the apparent optimum temperature for varying types of drier should be of great assistance to those experimenting with machines outside their previous experience. A few remarks on the use of thermographs might well have been included.

Chapters are added on sifting and packing, and a final chapter emphasizes the necessity for cleanliness in the factory and includes certain suggestions with regard to the conduct of experiments on Manufacture.

Throughout the book special mention has been made of the differential treatment which should be given to tipping leaf during withering, rolling and fermentation, and it is pointed out that though such leaf is unlikely to produce teas of the finest class, nevertheless, by suitable treatment it can be made into attractive well-twisted, black, leaf grades. It is a pity that no special reference is made to the manufacture of leaf containing an unusually high percentage of banjhi, since, in South India, such is almost inevitable at certain times of the year.

An additional chapter, or appendix, giving some account of the desiderata of factory equipment, particularly in relation to such factors as the ratio of the crop produced to the number of rollers, necessary withering space, horsepower required, etc. would probably have been much appreciated.

The physical characteristics of Mr. Moppett's book are very satisfactory. The book is of convenient size, and an improvement has been made in the

printing. The illustrations are sufficiently numerous and intelligible. There are still one or two printer's errors of importance, for instance, on p. 59, Co₂, should read CO₂.

The foregoing blemishes are, however, of very minor significance when balanced against the wealth of suggestion presented by this book to Planters in South India interested in Tea Manufacture. It is most certainly the most helpful book on Tea Manufacture available to South Indian Planters for application to the particular condition under which they are operating. It is not difficult to prophesy a wide dissemination of the book, and a careful study of the details given should represent a not inconsiderable aid to the improvement of the technique of tea manufacture in South India.

U. P. A. S. I. NOTES LABOUR DEPARTMENT NOTICE MYSORE DIVISION—HINDUPUR AGENCY

'Subscribers are hereby informed that Mr. S. Venkataramanappa, s/o Sanjeevappa, has been appointed as the Labour Agent at Hindupur from the 1st instant. His address is S. Venkataramanappa, The Labour Agent, Vakkapet, Hindupur.'

MYSORE,
December 9, 1931

JAS. GRUNDY,
Superintendent.

* * * *

OBITUARY

We very much regret to announce the death of a well-known planter Mr. Horatio M. Hall, of Cotengady Estate, Nelliampathy Hills, on the 7th December, 1931, at Lauristen, Kotagiri, in his 81st year.

DISTRICT NOTES CENTRAL TRAVANCORE

The Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Central Travancore Planters' Association (Incorporated) being the half-yearly Meeting of the Season 1931-1932 held on 21st November, 1931, at 10 a.m. at the Peermade Club, Peermade.

Present :

Messrs. R. J. McMullin (*Chairman*), R. F. Vinen, W. A. J. Milner, A. V. Mawer, M.C., T. M. Lewis, A. A. Angus, T. A. Kinmond, H. Clarke, A. R. St. George, W. S. Rowson, J. M. Wilkie, D. I. Gardiner, J. Wedderspoon, R. E. C. James, W. F. Inman, E. C. Sylvester, I. F. S. Rudd Clarke, G. Newton, W. F. Anderson, G. G. Milne, G. H. Bingham, M. W. Hoare, A. B. Gordon Graham, W. M. Stanton, A. H. J. How, J. S. Wilkie, H. Gibbon, and C. J. Madden (*Honorary Secretary*).

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 16th May, 1931, and of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 12th August, 1931, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

Correspondence.—Read letter dated 13th November, 1931, from Honorary Secretary, Travancore Combined Planters' Association, stating that the Deputation arranged had not yet been able to see the Dewan on the subject of Tea Export Duty.

Read letter No. LC-7 of 3rd November, 1931, from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., asking for the Association's considered opinion with reference to Mr. James' summary of the Whitley Commission Report. The Meeting authorized the Committee to go into the matter in detail and to draw up a reply.

Read letter No. AT-8 of 10th November, 1931, from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., on the subject of imitation and rubbishy teas. Most Estates in this District had definite instructions on the subject of local sales to avoid teas getting into the hands of unscrupulous dealers but the following resolution was proposed by Mr. J. S. Wilkie and seconded by Mr. T. A. Kinmond.

'That Factory sweepings and Red leaf be not sold but destroyed or used for manurial purposes.'

Carried nem con.

Read letter No. IT-7 of 6th November, 1931, from Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., re. Income-Tax on Free Quarters.

Read letter No. 99 dated 7th November, 1931, from the Private Secretary to H. H. The Maharajah of Travancore, thanking the Association for their Telegram of congratulations on the occasion of His Highness's Investiture with Ruling Powers.

Read letter No. 397 of 6th June, 1931, from the Commissioner, Devicolam, forwarding a request from the Archaeological Department for the loan of ancient copper Plates in private possession.

Bangalore Delegate's Report.—Mr. J. H. Cantlay was the Delegate to the Bangalore Meeting in August, 1931, and his report had been circulated to all Members.

Proposed by Mr. E. C. Sylvester and seconded by Mr. A. V. Mawer, M.C.—

'That the Report of the Delegate to the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting in August, 1931, be accepted'.

Carried.

Work of the General Committee.—Read letter No. UG-1 of 30th October, 1931, from the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., regarding the Executive Committee's proposals for holding Meetings at different centres to allow the Committee members of the District Associations to attend. The Meeting was generally in favour of these proposals.

District Rates. (a) *Head Money.*—This item was fully discussed, all members giving their views.

It was proposed by Mr. E. C. Sylvester and seconded by Mr. J. S. Wilkie—

'That the following be included in the District Rates that a maximum of 15 per cent Head Money may be paid either to Kanganies who are under no advance to the Estate and have no debt or to Kanganies who have worked off their advance to the Estate and are free of debt and to all other Kanganies a maximum of 10 per cent.'

Carried.

(b) *Men coolies wages.*—Prolonged discussion took place upon this subject and many opinions were expressed

(c) *Cost of Rice.*—This subject also came in for prolonged discussion. The following Resolution was proposed by Mr. J. S. Wilkie and seconded by Mr. E. C. Sylvester:—

'That the present rice issue of 6 Edgs. to the Re. 1 be continued and that it be reconsidered as altered conditions may demand.'

CORRESPONDENCE**'The Difference'—(continued)***The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.***DEAR SIR,**

To my interest in 'Profits' and Mr. A. W. F. Mill's letter in your issues of 7th and 21st ultimo was added trepidation, for both appear to want to raise the standard rate of 3 pies per lb. for Plucking, at least under some circumstances.

The complaint is made that Agents object to a cost of more than 3 pies per lb. I maintain the Agents' objections to be well founded at any time and doubly so in these days of falling Labour costs.

Three pies a lb. has proved attractive to Labour all over South India for many years past. The recent fall in rates of Check Roll pay will make the old Plucking rate more attractive still.

What, therefore, is to prevent the Writers of the above letters from putting their theories into practice and still keeping within the 3 pies a lb., allowed by their Agents when passing their Estimates?

The temporary pluckers, employed only during a 'rush' period, could be given a low poundage for their 'name' while the regular contract pluckers (who would be making big money in the 'rush') might have their 3 pies a lb. slightly reduced, to compensate for the extra paid to the temporary hands.

So long as the average of 3 pies a lb. was not exceeded, such a move would be questioned neither by Agent nor Neighbour any more than objection is now made to the usual 'name' for 'tipping' the first few rounds after a prune.

As to the poor show South Indian Factory accommodation and Tea Manufacture is said to make as compared to Ceylon, I am not qualified to express an opinion, but I cannot agree with 'Profits' as to leaf transport in S. India being a greater curse than in Ceylon—he writes:—

'. . . . sacks packed full and jammed on to carts' Why?

There are such things as baskets for transport, also properly constructed leaf-carts.

'Sacks packed full and jammed on to carts'—he might have added 'leaf crammed into plucking baskets'—which is seen on the majority of S. Indian places! This ill-treatment of leaf by pluckers and during transport is entirely the fault of the Planter—he alone is to blame—and is due to lack of organization and discipline and nothing else!

In the last ten Postwar years with their scramble for Plucking Labour and huge advances thrown at it, I fear lack of discipline has often been the real reason.

COTENGADY ESTATE,
SITHARKUNDA P. O.,
KOLLENGODE, SOUTH INDIA,
December 2, 1931.

Yours, etc.
'S. I. P.' .

* *The Editor, 'The Planters' Chronicle'.*

DEAR SIR,

Since the retirement of Mr. R. D. Anstead, your paper seems to have lost its vim and interest, and often meets with a sad fate. It seems to have developed into a Planters' Advertiser and record of resolutions at meetings, chiefly about the state of roads, which remain as per usual, and ignored by the powers that be.

The 'Selected Cuttings' culled from numerous Agricultural Journals, and notes by the Scientific Officer, were interesting and instructive, seeing that few Planters can afford to take in more than one or two Journals on Agricultural matters, but prefer their information in tabloid form.

- The *Journal of the Mysore Agricultural Experimental Union* voices Maiden research for annual crops under a light rainfall.

What an opportunity now offers for the *Chronicle* to voice Malnard research at the Coffee Experimental Farm, under heavier rainfall with misty accompaniment !

At present it would appear our Grandpas did so and so, and we will likewise.

Artificial manures according to Analyses of those with goods for salé, are the order of the day, irrespective of what is required for Annuals under a light rainfall, and Perennials under a heavier rainfall and stormy conditions.

Cannot room be found for such articles as

'The Deterioration of Soils' by F. Hardy, in *Tropical Agriculturist* copied into the *Journal of the Mysore Agricultural and Experimental Union*, page 175, Vol. viii, Nos. 3 and 4;

'The Composition of Drainage Water', page 222 of 'The Soil' by A. D. Hall?

It will astonish readers to realise the loss of manurial constituents, especially Lime, under a rainfall of 28 inches only.

Such articles copied from various Journals would be more instructive than Nursery Rhymes for Planting Lambs.

The old bound Volumes of *Planting Opinion* are still of interest.

Yours, etc.,

December 4, 1931.

MALNARD PLANTER.

[We regret our correspondent has not thought fit to voice his opinion before, as Mr. Anstead retired from the services of the Association over twelve years ago.—*Editor.*]

EXPORTS OF COFFEE, RUBBER & TEA FROM SOUTH INDIAN PORTS DURING SEPTEMBER, 1931

From	To	India	Ceylon	United Kingdom	Europe (excluding United Kingdom)	Asia (excluding India and Ceylon)	Africa	America	Australia
<i>Coffee—</i>									
Madras	282	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calicut	48	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mangalore	461	14,339	9	...	...
Tellicherry	1,281	...	...	...
Total	...	330	...	461	15,620	9	231	...	5,134
Previously...	...	6,195	185,420	48,873	93,377	9,931	2457	2,457	5,134
Total cwts. since 1-1-31.	368,058	6,525	185,420	49,334	103,997	9,940	231	2,457	5,134
<i>Rubber—</i>									
Calicut	30,160	19,000	187,178	...	...	...
Cochin	5,500	56,616	101,435	...	...	...
Alleppey	26,444	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	35,660	102,060	288,613	5,056,381	69,505	...	159	269,190
Previously...	...	281,100	2,771,382	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total lbs. since 1-1-31.	8,884,020	316,760	2,873,442	5,354,894	69,505	...	159	269,160	...
<i>Tea—</i>									
Madras	400	23,110	9,792	...	...	...	...
Calicut	72,588	65,290	988,290	1,850	...	...	...
Cochin	59,887	112	880,404	1,899	...	...	...
Tellicherry	141,291	237,166	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	3,616	805,938	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	56,755	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	132,987	233,301	2,972,345	3,749	...	...	9,694	...
Previously...	...	332,384	1,074,154	20,128,337	8,344	3,937	508	83,866	4,125
Total lbs. since 1-4-31.	24,984,731	465,371	1,304,455	23,100,682	12,093	3,937	508	93,560	4,125

—For Up-to-Date Transport

Dunlop Giant Bus Balloons!

IT has been found that in many cases Buses and Trucks can be operated more satisfactorily on Giant Balloon Tyres than on those of High Pressure type.

The Dunlop Giant Bus Balloon is run at a much lower air pressure than the High pressure type. For example the 30 x 5 H. D. requires a pressure of 80 lbs. per square inch, whereas the Giant Balloon which replaces it, can be run at 50/55 lbs.

The Giant Balloon therefore has these advantages :—

1. Greater Riding comfort—your passengers will appreciate this.
2. Reduced Cost of Chassis upkeep—the Balloon largely eliminates road shocks and thereby enables Spare Part Bills to be cut down.
3. Increased mileage—the Giant Balloon is less liable to concussion, bursts, and also to loss of mileage due to wheel spin.

*These important advantages
can be secured at a very
slightly increased cost.*

For Further particulars apply

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. (INDIA), LTD., MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.



Built by Dunlop

MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES

I. The London Market

Best prices realized.			Date of auction	Average prices obtained for tea,			
Mark	Pkgs.	Price		District	Week ending Novr. 19, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 19, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 19, 1930
(A) TEA (Weeks ending Thursday, November 19 and 26, 1931, respectively).			s. d.	N. India	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Thay Mudi	129	1 4	(26)	S. India	0 11.29	1 0.00	1 2.73
*Perla Karamalai	72	1 3	(18)	Ceylon ..	a 0 11.60	b 0 10.95	c 1 2.48
Nalla Mudi	54	1 2½	(19)	Java ..	1 4.68	1 3.25	1 6.58
*Thoni Mudi	222	1 2½	(19)	Sumatra ..	0 9.12	0 7.54	0 10.13
Sholavar	75	1 1½	(26)	Nyassa-land ..	0 7.46	0 7.63	0 11.21
Anai Mudi	108	1 1	(18)	Total..	d 0 0.03	e 1 0.27	f 1 3.24
Stanmore	132	1 0½	(19)				
Thoni Mudi	108	1 0½	(26)	Dist.	Week ending Novr. 26, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 26, 1931	January 1 to Novr. 26, 1930
(b) Central Travancore-				N. India.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Fairfield	99	1 2	(19)	S. India	0 10.86	0 11.97	1 2.73
Injumullav	54	1 1	(26)	Ceylon ...	g 0 11.67	h 0 10.96	i 1 2.49
Kuduwa Karnum	90	1 0½	(26)	Java ...	1 5.33	1 3.28	1 6.59
Moongalaar	78	1 0½	(18)	Sumatra ..	0 8.51	0 7.56	0 10.16
Glenmary	132	1 0½	(26)	Nyassa-land ..	0 7.81	0 7.63	0 11.23
Kuduwa Karnum	114	1 0½	(19)	Total...	j 0 11.83	k 1 0.26	l 1 3.25
Cheenthalaar	114	1 0	(26)				
(c) Kanan Devans-							
Yellapatty	108	1 10	(19)				
Nadiar	42	1 7½	(26)				
Sevenmallay	30	1 6	(26)				
Upper Surianalle	90	1 4½	(26)				
*Gundumallay	126	1 4½	(26)				
Surianalle	66	1 4½	(26)				
*Periavurrai	222	1 3½	(19)				
Chundavurrai	156	1 3	(19)				
Sevenmallay	126	1 3	(19)				
Silent Valley	35	1 2½	(19)				
Vagavurrai	75	1 2½	(19)				
(d) Nilgiris-							
Prospect	30	1 10½	(19)				
Chamraj	48	1 6	(26)				
*Ibex Lodge	107	1 4½	(19)				
Craigmore	192	1 4	(26)				
Brooklands	108	1 3	(19)				
Woodlands	222	1 2½	(19)				
Bhawani	131	1 2	(26)				
(e) Nilgiri-Wynaad-							
Mayfield	60	1 0½	(19)				
*Seaforth	135	1 0	(19)				
(f) Wynaad-							
Chundale	50	1 2½	(19)				
*Achoor	84	1 0½	(19)				
Tanga Mulla	66	1 0½	(19)				

* Where invoices are not sold or only part sold, the prices bid are taken in calculating the averages.

N.B.—The number of packages on which the South Indian averages are based is given below :—

a 7,759 b 274,021 c 309,283
d 83,719 e 3,823,105 f 3,663,744
g 6,119 h 280,140 i 317,223
j 78,778 k 3,901,883 l 3,738,358

(B) RUBBER.—

The London 'Spot' Quotation for Plantation First Latex Crêpe on Tuesday, December 15, 1931, was 3½d.

London Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, December 12, 1931, were 72,785 tons, an increase of 691 tons on December 5, 1931, inventory.

Liverpool Rubber Stocks for week ending Saturday, December 12, 1931, were 57,157 tons, an increase of 256 tons on December 5, 1931, inventory.

II. The Colombo Market

(Issued by the Colombo Brokers' Association).

T.H.A.—The quantity catalogued on December 18, 1931, totalled 2,624,374 lbs. The market for practically all descriptions showed a firmer tendency. NUWARA ELIYA AND MATURATA. Quality was about on a par with last week's offerings but a better selection was available. Demand was active for all grades, and prices showed an upward tendency. **HIGH GROWN.** Quality of High grown teas in some instances showed a slight improvement; this improvement was confined to offerings from Dimbula and similar districts, Uva teas being if anything rather poorer in quality. All useful liquorising coloury Broken were well supported at rather firmer rates, thin liquorising descriptions however came to a dull and irregular market. Leaf grades were well supported and in most cases showed an advance. **MEDIUM GROWN.** Quality was well maintained, all grades came to an active market, and sales were readily effected at firm to dearer rates. **LOW GROWN.** There was an active demand for all descriptions, Black leaf Brokens were wanted at 2 to 3 cents advance, Orange Pekoes were 1 to 2 cents dearer while Pekoes must be quoted fully firm. Commonest kinds also met with enquiry and were generally 2 to 3 cents higher. **FANNINGS AND DUSTS.** A few high grown fannings were in request but all other kinds came to a dull and declining market. Dusts were about steady at last rates.

RUBBER.—The 128 tons offered at the Auction held on December 3, 1931, was again rather poor quality but there was a good general demand for all grades. Contract quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet sold at 13½ cents, which was an advance of ½ cent on previous Auction rates. Fair, Off & Inferior sorts were fairly well competed for and showed a similar rise. There was not much Contract Crepe on offer but 14½ cents was paid on good lots being half cent dearer than previously. Off Crepe was in good demand at a ¼th cent rise, and Mottled sorts were half cent dearer. All grades of Scrap Crepe were again keenly competed for and showed rises of from ½—1 cent. Scraps were not competed for, and were about a cent cheaper.

FORTNIGHTLY RAINFALL STATEMENT

Owing to Rainfall Statements probably having been understamped and thus kept back by the Postal Authorities, returns have been even fewer than usual this week. May we once again, if this statement is to be continued, remind our contributors that Returns received here any time up to a week or so after the *Chronicle* has been published, are utterly useless and ask them as a matter of general interest to send in their returns at least three days before they are due for publication.—*Editor.*

November 29, 1931, to December 12, 1931 (inclusive)

(Stations are arranged in order approximately south to north, and those not in planting districts are shown in small capitals.)

Stations	First week	Second week	Total	Stations	First week	Second week	Total
5. Pattanapura.	...	4·62	4·62	23. Nilgiri Peak..	0·09	3·57	3·66
6. Kumbazha...	0·04	2·72	2·76	24. Coonoor ..	2·06	11·76	13·82
9. V'periyar ...	0·46	5·61	6·07	25. Kotagiri ...	1·11	6·95	8·06
10. Kalaar ..	0·10	N.R.	N.R.	26. Ootacamund ..	0·31	5·82	6·13
11. Chittuvurrai.	0·52	6·41	6·93	27. Yercaud ..	0·96	3·49	4·45
12. Bodr'KANUR	0·38	4·81	5·19	29. Devala ..	...	N.R.	N.R.
13. COCHIN	...	0·93	0·93	30. Devarshola ..	0·01	1·74	1·75
14. Mooply ...	0·09	2·62	2·71	31. CALICUT ..	...	1·14	1·14
15. Pachaimalai.	...	N.R.	N.R.	32. Kuttiyadi ..	0·16	1·52	1·68
16. Mudis ..	...	N.R.	N.R.	33. Vayiliti ..	...	2·25	2·25
17. POLLACHIE	0·85	4·16	5·01	34. Manantoddi...	...	N.R.	N.R.
18. Nell'pathy ...	0·90	2·92	3·82	41. Kadamane ...	0·05	0·74	0·79
19. Karapara ...	0·30	2·59	2·89	43. Merthisub'gey	...	0·80	0·80
20. Pullengode..	...	0·50	0·50	46. MANGALORE ..	...	1·11	1·11
21. Nilambur ..	0·52	1·54	2·06	47. MADRAS ..	0·30	1·25	1·55
22. Naduvattam	...	2·70	2·70		...		

N. R. No Return received.

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TWENTY-SIXTH VOLUME

OF

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